■ Entertainment / A2-1
Not a Valentine story

■ Business / B1
Foreign investments slump 54%

■ World / A9
Valentine's Day dates back to erotic fest

■ Lifestyle / C2
A volcano of colors

Tanong ng Bayan / A16
Martial law victims, dapat bang bayaran?

CELLCARD KADA ARAW,
CELLPHONE KADA LINGGO! Text 2910 now!

Rosales-Delasin tandem finishes 2nd in World Cup

THE PHILIPPINES came close to lifting the Ladies World Cup of Golf trophy on Sunday as Jennifer Rosales and Dorothy Delasin staged a mighty rally in the final round only to be denied by the Japanese in George, South Africa. Rosales and Delasin held the lead until the Japanese both birdied the 17th hole to score a two-shot win over the Filipinas and the Koreans.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

Monday, February 14, 2005 ★★★ 106 pages / 14 sections / Vol. 20 / No. 68 P18

website: www.inq7.net

Tatad: Pagcor operating with expired franchise

PHILIPPINE Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor), long reputed to be Malacañang's biggest cash cow, has been operating illegally since 2002, according to former Sen. Francisco Tatad.

Tatad, who now heads the Citizens vs Corruption Task Force, said yesterday the Pagcor franchise expired on Jan. 1, 2002, as provided

TATAD/ A21

Sulu death toll rises to 70

Troops, rebs in 'shouting distance'

By PDI Mindanao Bureau

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Fighting within screaming distance of each other, Moro guerrillas killed three more soldiers and wounded 13 others in a bid to repel advancing government forces on Jolo Island, officials said yesterday.

Flying a succession of sorties, Air Force OV-10 warplanes dropped 260-pound bombs on suspected guerrilla positions as the number of refugees swelled to 16,000.

The bombing began at 9 a.m. yesterday. Late in the afternoon, OV-10s were still taking off for strikes on Jolo.

The fresh fighting raised to 30 the overall government death toll against more than 40 killed which the military said the insurgents, led by Ustadz Habier Malik, had suffered.

The military has not released the identities of its three latest fatalities, but Army spokesperson Maj. Bartolome Bacarro said they were two privates and a sergeant.

"They were met with enemy fire and mortar attacks," Bacarro said.

The 13 soldiers wounded in Saturday's clashes around two towns included Maj. Em-

SULU/ A8

TWO Marines secure the perimeter of the airport as more soldiers disembark from a C-130 plane on Jolo Island for a military offensive to crush followers of Moro rebel leader Nur Misuari. AP

THOUSANDS of Filipino couples lock lips in a pre-Valentine kissing festival at Manila's Baywalk. Their effort failed to surpass last year's feat that made it to the Guinness Book of World Records. AP

More Pinoys not happy with love life, poll shows

By Tarra V. Quismundo
Metro

HAVE you kissed your wife or girlfriend today?

Not yet? Shame on you.

According to a nationwide survey published yesterday, less than half of the women in the country were happy with their love life.

MORE PINOYS/ A6

For Muslim-Christian pair, love conquers all

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—He is Muslim; she is Roman Catholic.

But despite the wide religious and cultural divide, their parents' disapproval, and the conflict in Mindanao, love conquered all for newlyweds Abul Khayr Alonto II and Michelle Robles.

Khayr, 26, is the son of Datu Abul Khayr Alonto, one of the original Moro National Liberation Front leaders. Michelle, 27, is the niece of National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales.

Khayr explained the significance of their multicultural union: "(It's the) clearest message that we can

FOR MUSLIM/ A20

Valentine House opens, but owner stays single

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—Today, a 68-year-old single woman here will open her house in Mirador Hills to showcase a collection of about 200 heart-shaped furnishings, ceramic décor and knickknacks.

Nida Soria, a native of Santa, Ilocos Sur, has been collecting Valentine trinkets for 10 years now.

Her house in Mirador Hills is known as the "Santa House" because during Christmas, she unpacks thousands of Santa Claus trinkets and puts them on display.

VALENTINE/ A6

Rice charms Europe, but skepticism remains

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

US SECRETARY of State Condoleezza Rice concluded at the weekend a 10-day diplomatic offensive which saw her visiting half a dozen European capitals in a bid to repair the trans-Atlantic alliance ruptured by the American-led invasion of Iraq.

At the end of Rice's trip to Brussels, seat of the European Union, the conclusion of most of the European press was that the US official had charmed the Europeans. Even so, the trip left Europeans skeptical over whether the second administration of President George W. Bush was on the way to transforming itself from warmonger to peacemaker.

Rice's conciliatory rhetoric toward France and Germany—two of the strongest opponents of the war on Iraq—lost its soothing effect when the US official mixed it up with a tough warning to Iran that it must abandon its attempt to build a nuclear weapon and end its support of terrorism.

In London and Berlin, Rice refused to rule out the possibility of an attack on Iran—a possibility raised by US Vice President Richard Cheney who said weeks ago that Israel might decide to attack Iran's nuclear facilities due

RICE/ A20

PHOTO TAKEN FROM "SIX MODERN FILIPINO HEROES"

ESTELITA JUCO: America, you came too late.

HOLOCAUST IN MANILA

Massacre of Agustinians, San Juan de Dios staff

By Alice Colet-Villadolid

(Fourth of a series)

DESPITE repeated orders from Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita for a complete withdrawal to northern Luzon, Adm. Sanji Iwabuchi of the Imperial Japanese Manila Naval Defense Force and his troops stayed on in Manila, believing they had a mission to hold Manila Bay and its environs. They sandbagged the medieval stronghold of Intramuros and the concrete buildings along Padre Burgos Drive.

Upon hearing that US Gen. Douglas MacArthur's forces were already in Pampanga by Feb. 3, 1945, Japanese commanders ordered all Intramuros civilians to leave their homes and proceed to the San Agustin Church.

Alfonso Aluit recounts in his book "By Sword and Fire:"

"The San Agustin church and monastery by this time were full of hostages—men, women and children. The church sheltered the women and children. The men overflowed into the

MASSACRE/ A20

DR. ANTONIO LAHOZ, on wedding day with bride Benita: Bayoneted to death in the plaza of ruins of the Sto. Domingo Church in Intramuros. PHOTO COURTESY OF ANTONIO LAHOZ

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2005

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern and Eastern Luzon will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers. While eastern sections of Visayas and Mindanao will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy.

COMPILED BY RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/02/14/05 SOURCE PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Partly Cloudy

House to consider lower VAT on oil firms, IPPs

By Carlito Pablo, Christine O. Avendaño, Norman Bordadora and Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE HOUSE of Representatives is reconsidering its earlier plan to lift the value-added tax exemption being enjoyed by oil companies and independent power producers after the latter warned of higher prices of petroleum products and electricity.

Rep. Jesli Lapus (NPC, Tarlac), chair of the House committee on ways and means, said the House may impose a lower VAT of 6 percent on oil firms and IPPs instead of the full 12 percent.

"The Department of Finance estimates the impact of a possible reduced VAT to 6 percent instead of 12 percent on power to electricity cost to be only 2.67 percent and 3.26 percent for industrial and residential customers, respectively," Lapus said a statement.

Lapus said that a 6 percent VAT will raise transport fares by an estimated P0.13, P0.72 and P0.22, the minimum or flag-down fares of jeepneys, taxis and buses, respectively.

"These represent a fare rate increase ranging from only 1.8 percent to 2.4 percent depending on the Land Transportation Franchising Regulatory Board's figures on the share of fuel cost to total fares," Lapus said.

The House is currently deliberating a measure which seeks to lift the VAT exemptions enjoyed by IPPs, oil firms, doctors and lawyers, and in the purchase of ocean-going vessels. The measure was a follow-up to the House's approval of a bill increasing the VAT from 10 percent to 12 percent.

The Senate has yet to come up with its own version.

Senate President Franklin Drilon said yesterday the Senate would now tackle the VAT bill, after passing last Friday the proposed P907.35-billion budget for 2005.

Drilon said that Sen. Ralph Recto was "ready" to draft the committee report on the VAT measure.

Recto, chair of the Senate ways and means committee, told reporters Friday that he may turn in the committee report by Feb. 21.

He said the committee would hold two more hearings before wrapping up its work.

Senators Joker Arroyo and Manuel Villar earlier denounced as blackmail and arm-twisting the supposed threat by oil firms and power generators to raise petroleum prices and electricity if they were subjected to the 12 percent VAT.

The Independent Philippine Petroleum Companies Association warned of an 11 percent increase in petroleum prices while the power sector warned of a power rate hike of P0.70 per kilowatt-hour.

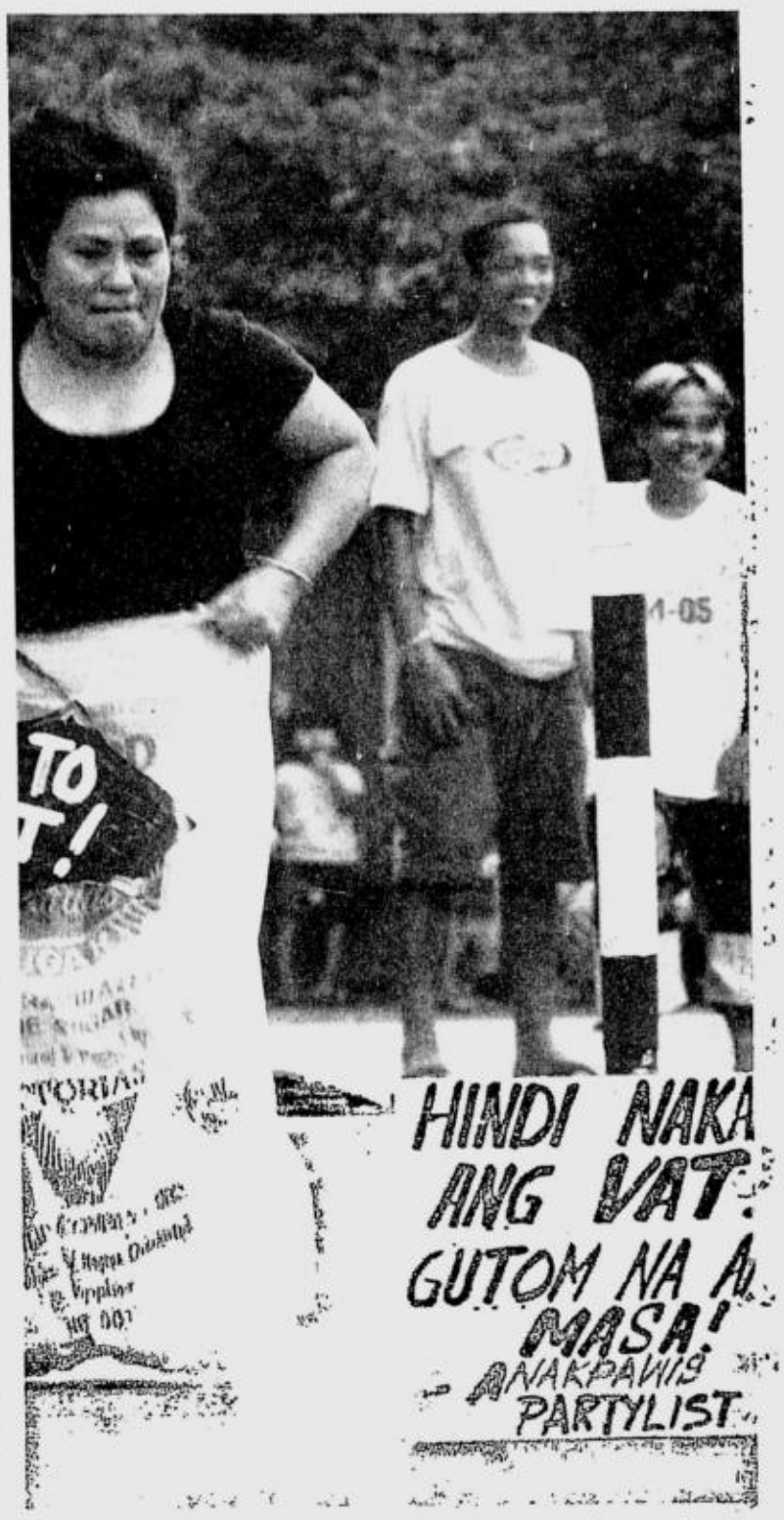
Lapus made the announcement of a possible reduced VAT in the context of the House's supposed "commitment to provide more safety nets to the poor and middle class."

"Among the safety nets for the poor and middle class, the House is mulling reducing the existing VAT rate from 10 percent to 6 percent on processed foods like sardines, mackerel, tuna, bread and noodles," Lapus said.

"Also to be included in the bill on exemptions is liquefied petroleum gas," he added.

"The House is committed to providing more safety nets to the poor and middle class to cushion the impact of the VAT and counter misperceptions being raised by anti-VAT proponents against the tax measure," Lapus said.

Various groups are set to stage mass actions nationwide to protest the increase in the VAT as the Senate prepares to tackle the controversial tax measure this week.



THE MILITANT party-list group Anakpawis sponsored yesterday sack races and other children's games in Quezon City to build awareness and draw protesters against the increase in the value-added tax (VAT). MITCH MAURICIO

'How does Salonga know where Marcos loot is?'

VICTIMS of abuse during martial law yesterday questioned former Presidential Commission on Good Government chair Jovito Salonga's assertion that part of the recovered Marcos wealth had already been set aside by the government to compensate the victims.

"How did he know the money had already been set aside for the victims?" asked Marie Hilao-Enriquez, one of about 10,000 rights-abuse victims who had filed and won the Honolulu class suit that had sought indemnity from the estate of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

"We cannot take hook, line and sinker Malacañang's claim that the (money) has been set aside for the victims. We are getting mixed signals from the government," Enriquez said.

Salonga on Saturday said the claimants were "talking through their hat" in expressing fears that the $683 million in recovered ill-gotten Marcos wealth had already been spent by the government.

"It hurts, especially since we look up to (Salonga) as a fellow victim," Enriquez told the INQUIRER. "With due respect, he should help instead of berating torture victims."

Salonga was among the thousands thrown into prison when Marcos declared martial law in 1972.

Salonga defended President Macapagal-Arroyo from allegations that the recovered Marcos assets had been subjected to fund abuse. He said the money to compensate the abuse victims had already been set aside and that the better part of the loot would go to bankrolling the land reform program.

The former senator also compared the rights abuse victims to the political opposition, saying they also could not get their act together. He said disagreements within the claimants' ranks contributed to the delay in the passage of legislation that would finally compensate the victims.

Norman Bordadora

The only thing you'll ever need

Whirlpool Microwave Ovens were created with you in mind. Designed to do more than just reheat, it also allows you to explore your creativity in cooking. Now you can grill*, crisp*, bake*, defrost and keep your food warm until ready to eat. With its double emission system, you can ensure that food is perfectly cooked without leaving any cold spots.

You'll never look at microwave ovens the same way again.

* Available in certain models only.

VIP series

AT318 Electronic Control Convection with Quartz Grill & Crisp Function

AVM 585 Electronic Control with Grill Function

AVM 278 Electronic with Crisp Plate

AVM 571 Easytronic Control

SOLO series

AVM 562 Electronic Control with Grill Function

AVM 563 Dial Control with Grill Function

AVM 542 Electronic Control

AVM 541 Dial Control

Whirlpool QUALITY EXPRESS SERVICE

7-DAY SERVICE | HOTLINE 7327370 | TEXT SERVICE 09209509493 | QUICK RESPONSE MOBILE SERVICE

Distributed by: Excellence Appliance Technologies, Inc.

Whirlpool HOME APPLIANCES

You and Whirlpool. The world's best homemakers.

Germany warns RP over expropriated airport terminal

GERMANY has urged the Philippine government to promptly compensate Fraport AG, one of the members of the consortium that built the expropriated Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 project, or risk scaring off foreign investors and souring ties, officials said Sunday.

Through its ambassador to Manila, the German government expressed its concern late last month to Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo over the December takeover of the Philippine International Air Terminal Co. (Piatco) consortium's $650-million Naia Terminal 3 project, officials said.

Fraport AG is a member of the Piatco consortium which built the airport terminal.

In a formal letter, German Ambassador Axel Raimund Weishaupt expressed concern over the "particular manner of expropriation and the political signal it may send" to potential investors in the country.

The envoy also urged Manila to abide by the terms of a 1997 bilateral treaty on reciprocal protection of investments and to stick to its commitment to provide "just compensation" to the terminal consortium project, according to documents released by Malacañang.

The German government called for a "speedy and mutually satisfactory solution" to the expropriated investment in the "interest of avoiding a hitch in Philippine-German relations."

President Macapagal-Arroyo plans to open the terminal later this year after the government won a lower court order to take over the facility from the consortium, in which Fraport has an estimated 30-percent stake.

Singapore and Filipino firms comprise the other consortium members. Fraport is seeking compensation of $465 million, and the case is under separate international arbitration proceedings in Washington and Singapore.

The terminal has been mothballed since 2003 when President Arroyo revoked the consortium's "build-operate-transfer" contract with the government on grounds that certain terms were illegally renegotiated by her deposed predecessor President Joseph Estrada in 1998.

"The Philippine government is firmly committed to paying just compensation to Piatco and its shareholders in accord with the rule of law, including international law," Romulo said in a letter to Ms Arroyo, which was released to the press over the weekend.

Ms Arroyo last month won backing for the expropriation from the local United States, European, Canadian, Australia-New Zealand and South Korean chambers of commerce.

They said the government action was "clearly in the best national interest."

A lower court last month ordered the government to make a $62.3-million down payment to the consortium but the Supreme Court later ordered a temporary suspension of any such payments. *AFP*

Why Mike gives Gloria one white rose

A DOZEN roses—11 red, one white.

That is what President Macapagal-Arroyo will receive today from First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo, as lovers mark Valentine's Day.

"When they were younger, many admirers would send roses to the President. The white rose was the signal the bouquet of flowers was from the First Gentleman," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye explained.

From then on, Bunye said, the First Gentleman made it a point to give his wife the unique bouquet during Valentine's Day and other special personal occasions. ***Juliet Labog-Javellana***

Go slow on Cha-cha, advises oldest solon

By Carlito Pablo

SAYING he was dispensing the wisdom of experience, the oldest member of the House of Representatives yesterday counseled against rushing to amend the 1987 Constitution, especially through a constituent assembly.

Rep. Herminio Teves (Lakas, Negros Oriental), who turns 85 in April, said that before the House presses for a constituent assembly, which would be comprised of congressmen and senators sitting in joint plenary, Charter change proponents might do well to learn from the lessons of the past.

Teves noted that Congress convened into a constituent assembly three times in recent history. The first time was in May 1957 "but nothing came out of it," he said.

He said the assembly failed because "members failed to agree on any of the amendments advanced."

Congress again convened into a constituent assembly in April 1966 but the voters rejected proposed amendments passed by the assembly in a consequent plebiscite.

Teves said the proposals then sought to increase the membership of the House and to allow them to run as delegates to the 1971 Constitutional Convention.

"Voters ratified only the third resolution calling for a Con-con," Teves said.

Congress convened into a constituent assembly for the third time in June 1969, according to Teves.

But, he said, "instead of proposing amendments, the assembly simply endorsed a measure governing the election of delegates to the 1971 Con-con."

Instead of seeking another constituent assembly, Teves said the House may want to consider holding a plebiscite first to "determine the genuine sentiments of Filipinos on major reform issues."

"If the people, for example, strongly indicate in a plebiscite that they wish to keep the presidential form of government, then there's no point in pushing for a shift to a parliamentary system," Teves said. "Because it will surely be defeated by voters once they are asked to ratify it."

Teves was commenting on the recent approval by the House committee on constitutional amendments of a measure calling for a constituent assembly for the purpose of amending the 1987 Constitution in order to effect a shift to a parliamentary form of government.

SALE
3 DAYS LEFT!
February 1 to 16, 2005
INVITATION TO COMFORT
More Packages Available to Choose From!
SAVE P19,884.40
COMPLETE BEDROOM PACKAGE 2
now only
P79,537.60
was P99,422.00
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
Federal DESIGN EXPO
OXFORD High 150x190 cm Queen Bed
Drawer Bedside Table
Fabric Foot Stool
Embroidered Cushions
Queen Quilt
Ambassador Mattress Bed 8" 60x75
Standard Shams Patchwork Design
The Biggest Lifestyle Center
2250 Don Chino Roces Avenue, near corner EDSA, Makati City · Tel. 893-6553 · 893-6589 · OPEN MONDAYS THRU SUNDAYS from 8:30 AM to 7:30 PM
*ACCESSORIES NOT INCLUDED
Per DTI-NCR Permit No.: A1-089 Series of 2005

Be Desirable Again!

Flatten your flabby tummy, trim off inches of fat and look your best for your loved one! Call Marie France today and be among the first to enjoy our Valentine fat-loss treat:

FREE 3 tummy-flattening Electro-lipolysis Treatments upon enrollment from February 14-19, 2005!

Per DTI NCR Permit No 0651 Series of 2005

Marie France Bodyline™ www.mariefrance.com.ph

CALL 894-BODY (2639)

MAKATI ORTIGAS TIMOG BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA • TEL: 961-2981 CEBU • TEL: 233-7637

Vast majority of country's police stations 'squatters'

By Christian V. Esguerra

WHILE the headquarters of the Philippine National Police is undergoing a major facelift, most of the country's local police stations do not even own the lots or buildings they occupy, making them virtual "squatters."

The PNP said that of its 1,595 city and municipal police stations nationwide, 84 percent, or a total of 1,339, were "squatting," mostly in the city and town halls of the local government units.

Supt. Francisco Llamas, director of PNP's Engineering Service, said only 256 police stations across the country had their own lots and buildings.

The PNP is now in a rush to close the wide gap. It plans to build at least 634 police stations nationwide over the next three to five years.

The idea, Llamas explained, was to give policemen a "sense of pride with a presentable headquarters."

At present, many local police stations are dependent on local governments, not just in terms of office space, but also for basic necessities like gasoline and office supplies.

"Ideally, a police station must have its own lot and building," Llamas said. "It has to be detached from town halls so it would have its own identity, so there would be the idea of independence."

Considering the huge discrepancy, some police officers have questioned the ongoing facelift of PNP national headquarters at Camp Crame, which is expected to be completed early next month.

The P5-million budget for the renovation could build at least two stations in the country's far-flung regions, they said. A "basic" police station costs at least P1.7 million.

Although the PNP's top generals seem bent on making only their own offices look good, Llamas said it didn't mean that the foot soldiers were being neglected.

"Actually, we build an average of 30 police stations yearly," he told the INQUIRER in an interview. "We just have to be patient. This thing cannot be solved overnight. And if only the public could view our stations in the provinces, they'll see that they're not as deplorable as they think."

Until the PNP could provide legitimate homes for its 1,339 "homeless" stations, thousands of policemen would have no choice but to "squat."

This should explain why citizens who file complaints at police stations are sometimes asked to shell out money. Neighborhood cops can't even buy bond paper.

During the term of Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. as PNP chief, he ordered the construction of at least 11 stations in the poorest regions in the country, the INQUIRER learned.

Among these regions was his home province of Zambales where the provincial police office used to look no better than an abandoned ancestral house. The wooden headquarters was built when the late President Ramon Magsaysay was still defense minister in the 1950s.

Injured media men get benefits

MEDIA persons who get hurt covering the news are covered by benefits from the Employees Compensation Commission (ECC) as long as their employers keep up their monthly premiums.

The ECC gave medical benefits to ABS-CBN reporter Doland Castro, one of the 16 people wounded when they were caught in the crossfire between policemen and robbers who had held up the Banco de Oro branch in Valenzuela City on Dec. 14, 2004.

The ECC's Quick Response Team proceeded to Medical City General Hospital in Pasig City to inform Castro of the commission's coverage and the benefits available to the victims of work-connected contingencies.

The QRT also visited ABC 5 cameraman Ed de Guzman and ABS-CBN Radyo Patrol reporter Jun Lingcoran who were injured while covering typhoons "Winnie" and "Yoyong" in December last year.

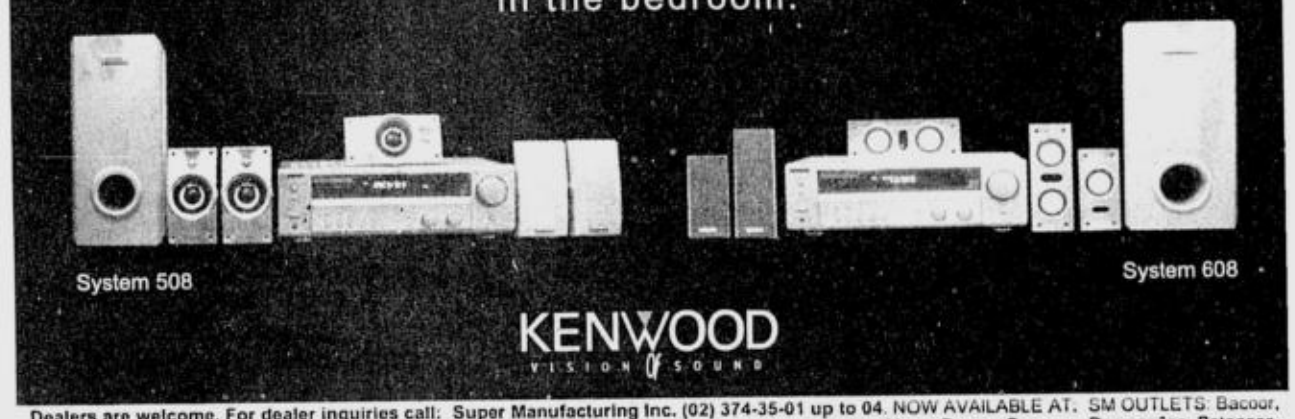
The car De Guzman and his colleagues, reporter Karen Lim and driver Albert Selda, were riding in struck a tree in San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija, on Dec. 2, 2004. The team was going to Gabaldon town in the same province and later to Dingalan in neighboring Aurora.

De Guzman suffered bruises and a bone fracture after he was thrown from the car and hit a tree. He was airlifted to Manila by the Philippine Navy from the Nueva Ecija Doctors Hospital in Cabanatuan City.

Lingcoran was hit by a rock that crushed his right ankle as he and his news team were in Real, Quezon, on Dec. 5 crossing rice paddies when a landslide struck. *Jerome Aning*

TWO MORE GOOD REASONS TO JUST STAY IN BED.

Theatre Systems you can enjoy in the bedroom.



KENWOOD
VISION OF SOUND

Dealers are welcome. For dealer inquiries call: Super Manufacturing Inc. (02) 374-35-01 up to 04. NOW AVAILABLE AT: SM OUTLETS: Bacoor, Cebu, Fairview, Iloilo, Makati, Manila, Megamall, NE 3, NE Main, Pampanga, Rockwell, Southmall, Sta. Mesa, Davao, Cagayan, Dasmariñas, Batangas. W ESTERN MARKETING: Commonwealth, Farmer's Plaza, Festival Mall, Grand Central, Megamall, Recto, Sta. Lucia, Sta. Rosa. ABENSON: NE, Avant, Makati, Alabang, Calnta, Shangri-La. 5TH AVENUE: Shangri-La, Makati, Alabang, NE. AVESCO: Frisco, Cubao, Manila. PROVINCIAL DEALERS: Magic Appliance Dagupan, Magic Nepo Mall, Saver's Mart Balibago, Saver's Mart Olongapo, Saver's Mart San Fernando, Savers Angeles, Tarlac Mac, Tarlac Northern Marketing, Gleen Marketing Tacloban. SOUTH PROVINCIAL DEALERS: Gleen Marketing Pagadian, Gleen Marketing Tacloban, Golden Bell Davao, Golden Bell Zamboanga, Golden Bell Cagayan de Oro, Cebu Appliance, Mindanao Solidmark, Proline Electro System.

NOW IN ITS 20TH YEAR

THE PRES. ELPIDIO QUIRINO SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

P10.5 MILLION WORTH OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN ANY OF THE FOUR- OR FIVE-YEAR PROGRAMS OFFERED AT TIP

Bona fide public or private fourth year high school students with 85% or above third grading period general average or grade in Math IV, Science IV, or English IV qualify for the competitive examinations for the following grants:

Presidential Scholar (1st Placer) - Outlay of P100,000.00 to cover fifty (50) monthly stipends of P2,000.00 per month through five (5) school years for board and lodging, books, transportation and other basic miscellaneous expenses, plus an outlay of P171,000.00 to cover tuition and other basic miscellaneous fees throughout the course in any of the four- or five-year programs requiring board exams offered at the TIP P271,000.00

2nd to 61st Placers - Outlay of P171,000 for each of the sixty (60) scholars to cover tuition and other basic miscellaneous school fees throughout the course in any of the four- or five-year programs requiring board exams offered at the TIP P10,260,000.00

Total P10,531,000.00

NOW IN ITS 9TH YEAR

THE GOV. DEMETRIO QUIRINO, SR. SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

P7.55 MILLION WORTH OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE ACCOUNTANCY PROGRAM AT TIP MANILA

Bona fide public or private fourth year high school students with 83% or above third grading period general average or grade in Math IV, Science IV, or English IV qualify for the competitive examinations for the following grants:

1st Placer - Outlay of P60,000.00 to cover forty (40) monthly stipends of P1,500.00 per month through four (4) school years for board and lodging, books, transportation and other basic miscellaneous expenses, plus an outlay of P125,400.00 to cover tuition and other basic miscellaneous fees throughout the Accountancy program at TIP Manila.....P185,400.00

2nd to 51st Placers - Outlay of P125,400.00 for each of the fifty (50) scholars to cover tuition and other basic miscellaneous school fees throughout the Accountancy program at TIP Manila P6,270,000.00

52nd to 131st Placers - Outlay of P13,630.00 for each of the eighty (80) scholars to cover tuition and other basic miscellaneous school fees for one (1) semester in the Accountancy program at TIP Manila P1,090,400.00

Total.....P7,545,800.00

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES
In constant redefinition of academic life

PANG ISKOLAR BA ANG GALING MO?

ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS OF TIP

WHERE TO FILE APPLICATION:
■ Office of the Registrar
TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES
■ 363 P. Casal St., Quiapo, Manila
Tel. 733-9117/ 736-4208
■ 938 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. 911-0140 / 912-1539

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:
■ Form 138 (High School Card) or certified copy with grades up to 3rd Grading Period
■ 2 copies of 2" x 2" ID Picture

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:
■ Pres. Elpidio Quirino Friday, March 4, 2005
■ Gov. Demetrio Quirino, Sr. Friday, March 11, 2005
■ Sec. Guillermo De Vega Friday, March 18, 2005

SCHEDULE OF EXAMINATIONS:
■ Pres. Elpidio Quirino Saturday, March 5, 2005
■ Gov. Demetrio Quirino, Sr. Saturday, March 12, 2005
■ Sec. Guillermo De Vega Saturday, March 19, 2005

■ TIME AND PLACE OF EXAMINATIONS:
9:00-11:00 AM, TIP MANILA AND TIP QUEZON CITY

NOW IN ITS 30TH YEAR

THE SEC. GUILLERMO DE VEGA SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

P7.87 MILLION WORTH OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE ARCHITECTURE OR ENGINEERING PROGRAMS OFFERED AT TIP

Bona fide public or private fourth year high school students with 80% or above third grading period general average or grade in Math IV, Science IV, or English IV qualify for the competitive examinations for the following grants:

1st Placer - Outlay of P50,000.00 to cover fifty (50) monthly stipends of P1,000.00 per month through five (5) school years, plus an outlay of P171,000.00 to cover tuition and other basic miscellaneous fees throughout the Architecture program or in any four- or five-year Engineering program requiring board examinations offered at the TIP P221,000.00

2nd to 41st Placers - Outlay of P171,000.00 for each of the forty (40) scholars to cover tuition and other basic miscellaneous school fees throughout the Architecture program or in any four- or five-year Engineering program requiring board examinations offered at the TIP P6,840,000.00

42nd to 101st Placers - Outlay of P13,500.00 for each of the sixty (60) scholars to cover tuition and other basic miscellaneous school fees for one (1) semester in Architecture or in any four- or five-year Engineering program requiring board examinations offered at the TIP P810,000.00

Total P7,871,000.00

OTHER ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS AND DISCOUNTS

	CATEGORY	GRANTS	PERIOD COVERED
1.	HONOR STUDENTS		
1.1	Valedictorian	Free Tuition and Basic Miscellaneous Fees	2 Semesters
		P1,000.00 Stipend per Semester	2 Semesters
1.2	Salutatorian	Free Tuition and Basic Miscellaneous Fees	2 Semesters
		P1,000.00 Stipend per Semester	1 Semester
1.3	3rd-10th Ranking High School Graduate	Free Tuition and Basic Miscellaneous Fees	1 Semester
2.	OTHER DISCOUNTS BASED ON GENERAL AVERAGE IN 4TH YEAR HIGH SCHOOL OR FINAL GRADE IN MATH IV, ENGLISH IV, OR SCIENCE IV		
2.1	90% or above	Free Tuition and Basic Miscellaneous Fees	1 Semester
2.2	85% - 89%	Free Tuition Fee	1 Semester
2.3	83% - 84%	60% Discount on Tuition Fee	1 Semester
2.4	81% - 82%	60% Discount on Tuition Fee	1 Semester
2.5	80%	50% Discount on Tuition Fee	1 Semester

MANILA CAMPUSES 363 P. Casal St., Quiapo, Manila Tels. 733-9117 / 736-4208
1338 Arlegui St., Quiapo, Manila
QUEZON CITY CAMPUS 938 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City Tels. 911-0140 / 912-1539
TIP SEASIDE MARITIME TRAINING CENTER Barangay San Rafael III, Novaleta, Cavite
www.tip.edu.ph

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, February 14, 2005
1st Week of Lent

1st Reading: Lev 19:1-2,11-18
Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory with all his angels, he will sit on the throne of his Glory. All the nations will be brought before him, and as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, so will he do with them, placing the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

The King will say to those on his right: 'Come, blessed of my Father! Take possession of the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. For I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me into your house. I was naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you visited me. I was in prison and you came to see me.'

Then the good people will ask him: 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and give you food; thirsty and give you drink, or a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to see you?' The King will answer, 'Truly, I say to you: whenever you did this to these little ones who are my brothers and sisters, you did it to me.'

Then he will say to those on his left: 'Go, cursed people, out of my sight into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels! For I was hungry and you did not give me anything to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink; I was a stranger and you did not welcome me into your house; I was naked and you did not clothe me; I was sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'

They, too, will ask: 'Lord, when did we see you hungry, thirsty, naked or a stranger, sick or in prison, and did not help you?' The King will answer them: 'Truly, I say to you: whatever you did not do for one of these little ones, you did not do for me.'

And these will go into eternal punishment, but the just to eternal life."

Commentary

It is Lent and the readings of the Old Testament tell us where to start in our practice of obedience: Be holy like I, your God, am holy. Reach. Start with your neighbor. Don't lie, steal or deceive. No oppression, greed, injustice towards workers; no taking advantage of those in need, lacking what you have, no being a stumbling block by what we do for others. Honor the truth, treat all with the justice each deserves by right. No revenge, no nurturing grudges, no harm to others, no violence. Love your neighbor as you love yourself—why, because I, Yahweh am God and I say so. A good examination of conscience for these days for all of us publicly. And Jesus says—that was what you don't do. Now this is what you must do (rest evil, practice virtue of justice). It is right out of Isaiah—feed, clothe, give drink, heal, release the prisoner, shelter the homeless. It is not an option. This is what we will be judged on. Jesus, make us just. Make us aware of the injustice we are a part of that destroys so many others. Make us your sheep, your children. Make us holy. Amen.

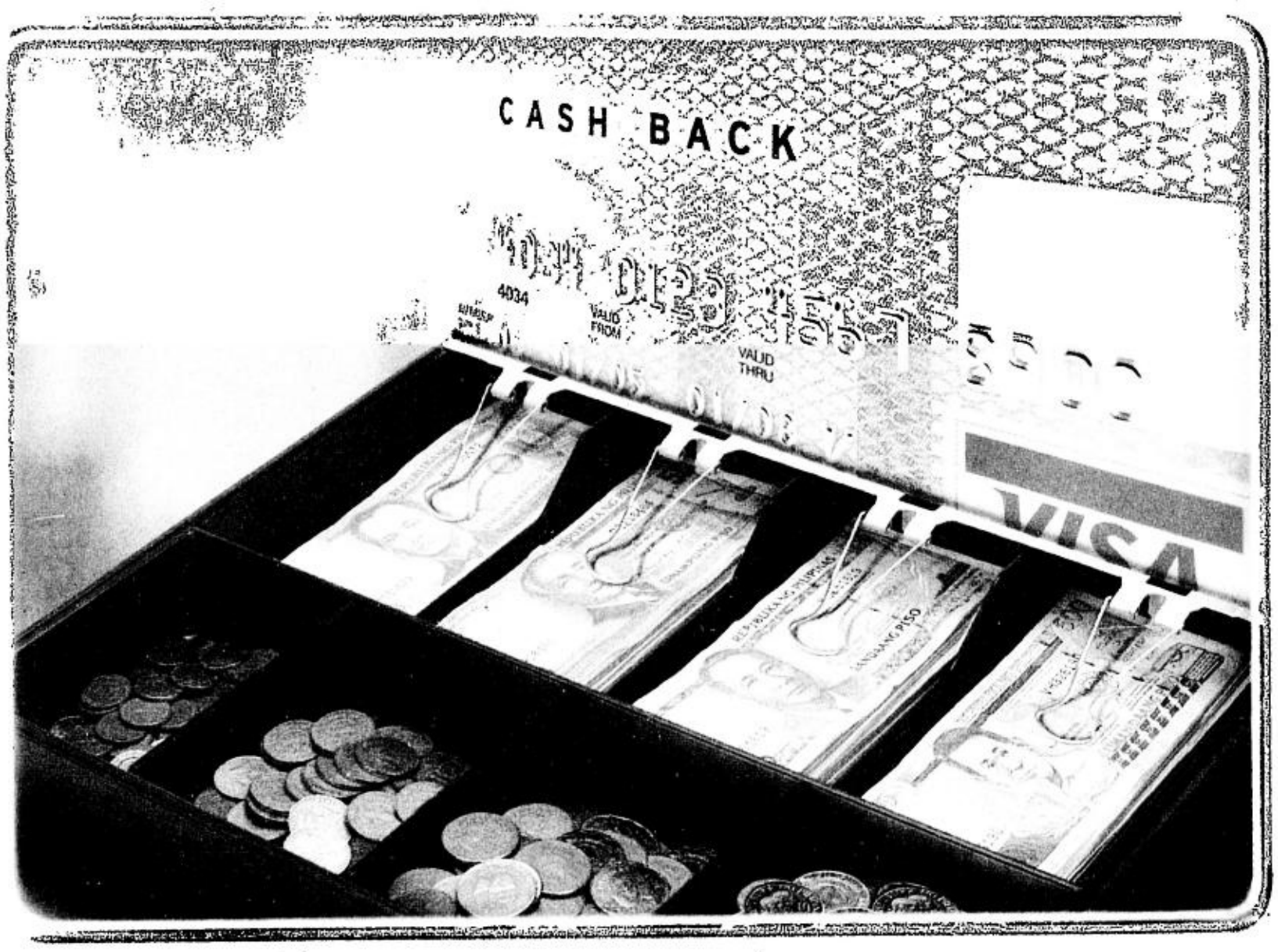
Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

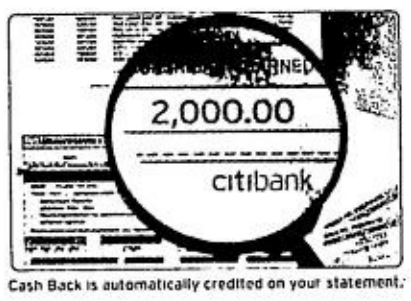
REMEDIAL LAW (CIVIL PROCEDURE)—**Jurisdiction over subject matter determined by allegations in the complaint**—The well-entrenched principle is that the jurisdiction of the court over the subject matter of the action is determined by the material allegations of the complaint and the law, irrespective of whether or not the plaintiff is entitled to recover all or some of the claims or reliefs sought therein. The jurisdiction of the court over the nature of the action and the subject matter thereof cannot be made to depend upon the defenses set up in the court or upon a motion to dismiss for, otherwise, the question of jurisdiction would depend almost entirely on the defendant. Once jurisdiction is vested, the same is retained up to the end of the litigation. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Callejo, Sr., Second Division, Laresma vs Abellana, G. R. No. 140973, November 11, 2004] BY R. B. VERA

citibank CASH BACK VISA
It's more than just a credit card.

It's giving you cash back
when you spend on anything and everything.



The New Citibank Cash Back Card



Cash Back is automatically credited on your statement.

It's the card that gives you up to 2.5%* cash back on all your purchases every month.

Plus, enjoy a bonus of 3%** cash back on dining expenses, utility bills and tuition fees on top of your regular cash back from January 3 to June 30, 2005.

Apply now and enjoy a first year annual fee waiver.***
Call 423-3000 or log on to www.citibank.com.ph

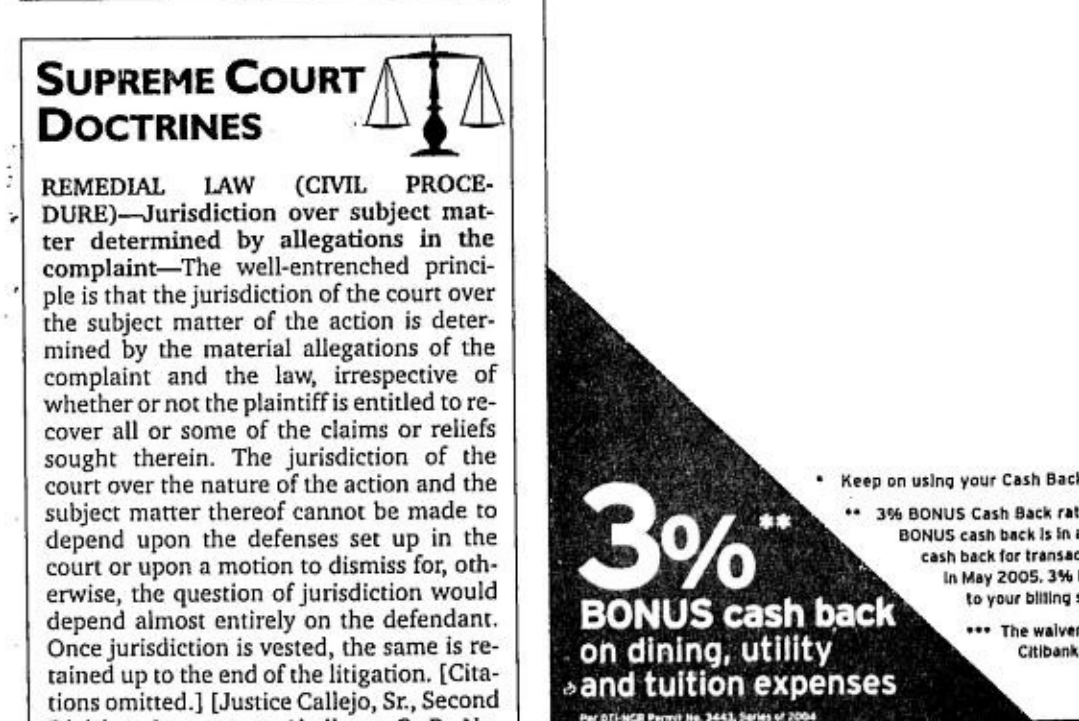
3%** BONUS cash back on dining, utility and tuition expenses
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3443, Series of 2004

* Keep on using your Cash Back Card and you can get from 0.5% to 2.5% cash back every month. See flyers for details.

** 3% BONUS Cash Back rate is a promotional offer for the launch period of January 3 to June 30, 2005 only. The 3% BONUS cash back is in addition to the standard Cash Back rate of 0.5% to 2.5% for regular transactions. 3% BONUS cash back for transactions within the period of January 3 to March 31, 2005 will be credited to your billing statement in May 2005. 3% BONUS cash back for transactions within the period of April 1 to June 30, 2005 will be credited to your billing statement in August 2005.

*** The waiver on the First Year Annual Fee only applies to Principal Cardholders that do not have an existing Citibank Credit Card.

citibank



You don't need diving lessons to see sharks and corals. Comfortable shoes will do.

Know how it feels to walk and breathe under water. Call your favorite travel agent now!

UNIQUELY Singapore
visitsingapore.com

Entertainment to go, minus the wires.

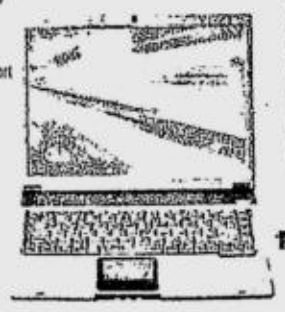
Intel Inside centrino MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

Watch a movie on the deck. Download a game and play it in the airport lounge. Add wireless to your entertainment and take it to the limit with your NEO Q-Note based on Intel® Centrino™ mobile technology.

Q-NOTE M3600/M3600S

- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 715 (1.50 GHz, 2MB L2 cache, 400 MHz FSB)
  - Intel® 855GM Chipset
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG LAN 3B Mini PCI Adapter
- 256MB DDR Memory
- 40GB Hard Disk Drive
- 14" TFT XGA Display (1024x768)
- Combo DVD + CDRW Drive
- 56K Modem, 10/100 LAN
- 2x USB 2.0, 1 x 1394 Firewire port
- Built-in Webcam
- Weighs approx 2.75Kg
- Optional 2nd 12 cell battery
- Free Carry Case

₱63,999



Q-NOTE T210 TABLET PC

- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 715 (1.50 GHz, 2MB L2 cache, 400 MHz FSB)
  - Intel® 855GM Chipset
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG LAN 3B Mini PCI Adapter
- 256MB DDR Memory
- 40GB Hard Disk Drive
- 14" TFT XGA Display (1024x768)
- Combo DVD + CDRW Drive
- 56K Modem, 10/100 LAN
- 2x USB 2.0
- 4-in-1 Memory Card Reader
- Built-in Webcam
- Weighs approx 2.6Kg
- Free Carry Case

₱73,999

Q-NOTE M121W/M121WS

- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 715 (1.50 GHz, 2MB L2 cache, 400 MHz FSB)
  - Intel® 855GM Chipset
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG LAN 3B Mini PCI Adapter
- 256MB DDR Memory
- 40GB Hard Disk Drive
- 12.1" TFT WXGA Display (1280x800)
- Combo DVD + CDRW Drive
- 56K Modem, 10/100 LAN
- 2x USB 2.0
- Infrared
- Built-in Webcam
- Weighs approx 2Kg
- Free Carry Case

₱74,999

AUTHORIZED NEO RESELLERS :
GMM RETAIL: ARX COMPUTERS 6320578 ⊖ ASIANIC 6830407⊖ DIGITAL FOR PLAY 7221908 ⊖ COMPEX 7404658 to 60 ⊖ COMPLINK 6319901⊖ E-HUB 6316358 ⊖ PC CORNER 7231718 ⊖ PC EXPRESS 7258888 ⊖ PC QUARTER 7211051 ⊖ PREMIUM PC 9262148 GMM CORPORATE: ASTRAL DATA SYSTEMS 3726917⊖ COMPUCARE 7229783 ⊖ COLUMBIA TECH 5240393 ⊖ MICROGENESIS BUSINESS SYSTEMS 8924447 to 49 ⊖ MICROPHASE 7500827 ⊖ MICROPACIFIC 8404563 ⊖ SM EQUICOM 8133801 ⊖ UNISON COMPUTER SYSTEMS 3746888 ⊖ ZENSHIN 3650536 VISMIN : CBX CORPORATION (032) 2314369 ⊖ ELECTROWORLD (032)232-0751 ⊖ DIGITAL INTERFACE (082)2258151 to 52⊖ LENTON (032)2539451 to 53 ⊖ MDR MICROWARE SALES (032)2554415 / (032)4124864 to 67 PROV. LUZON : ALL ELECTRONICS (052) 4807544 ⊖ BENERSON (045) 9321585 ⊖ LASER (074) 4425854 ⊖ RCA COMPUTERS (046) 8504034

NEO OWNING THE FUTURE TODAY

Intel, Intel logo, Intel Inside, the Intel Inside logo, Intel Centrino, Intel Centrino logo, Celeron, Intel Xeon, Intel Speedstep, Itanium, Pentium, and Pentium III Xeon are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries.
Wireless connectivity and some features may require you to purchase additional software, services or external hardware. Availability of public wireless LAN access points limited. System performance measured by MobileMark® 2002 -System performance, battery life

FOR COMPLETE PRODUCT INFORMATION, please dial PC-MANIA (632-7262642) / 7260707, email neo@gieo.com.ph.
Visit our showrooms, Digital Playground : 4L Cyberzone Bldg B SM Megamall & Gilmore IT Center, Gilmore Ave. cor Aurora Blvd., QC. www.neo.com.ph

WOW! MAGIC SING PREMIUM Videoke Anytime, Anywhere!

Sing through the Philippines!

The Only Videoke Microphone that Promotes Philippine Tourism

Proud to Promote Philippine Tourism!

WOWPHILIPPINES
Miniloc Island Resort
WOWPHILIPPINES
MINILOC ISLAND RESORT. This world-class Palawan resort is esconced in a cove. Visitors have the option to stay in nipa hut cottages built on stilts over the water, garden cottages surrounded by tropical flowers and cliff cottages nestled on the hillside. There are also seaview rooms with an adjoining verandah, directly overlooking the sea.
Take the Videoke Tayo!
2005 EDITION MAGIC SING PREMIUM

WOW 2005 EDITION

Be a Tourism Promoter & enjoy endless singing enjoyment!

Exclusive Values

55 built-in WOWPHILIPPINES Picture Backgrounds

Full-color Picture Guide

BIYAHE Tayo! BONUS SONG!

BIYAHE Tayo! VCD* For every purchase of Duet Mic & Tagalog Song chip

*"BIYAHE Tayo!" is a Travel Advocacy Campaign Program of Pfizer Bonamine

AVAILABLE NATIONWIDE AT: Made in Korea by: ET ENTERTECH Co. Ltd.

odyssey MUSIC & VIDEO · Automatic CENTRE Home & Office Center · AstroVision · ASTROPLUS · ABENSON · AVSurfer · AVid BRANDS! · WESTERN · TIONGSAN HARRISON · SIGHTS & SOUNDS Audio / Video · The Listening Room · FAIRNSQUARE EMPORIUM, INC. · WELCOME HOME APPLIANCE CORPORATION · SOLID ELECTRONICS · PACIFIC ELECTRONICS · SANSONIC MARKETING · OHM'S TRADER · Hirosé · W & M Marketing · SANTECH · PRO SOUND · ASSURANCE Merchandising · BM BETHEL · HARDWARE EXCHANGE · appliance · SPECTRA AUDIO VIDEO CENTER · Nintendo · CSI CITY SUPERMARKET INCORPORATED · BHF · GUANZON · SOLAR SALES CENTER · Consumer Appliance Traders, Inc. · EVER APPLIANCE CENTER, INC. · People's MARKETING · Willy and Sons Corporation · ABEN Marketing · ECHO · ASIAN HOME · REVERB · ECO-TECH · Cebu Appliance Center · APPLIANCE CENTRUM · Lopue's · MARKETING INC. · QUALITY APPLIANCE PLAZA INC. · SPECIAL APPLIANCE PLAZA INC · RAINBOW APPLIANCE PLAZA INC. · BCS · GOLDEN BELL · Mindanao Solidmark, Inc. · BETTER LIVING · MA-AN

Metro Manila Dealers:
Armstrong Gonzalo Puyat Raon, Manila • Knight Audio Room Raon Shopping Center, Manila • Ample • Viewplus Appliance • Richland Electronics • Filgifts Filipino Merchant Bldg Legaspi Village, Makati City • Earl Toy World • Shop Manila • VMZ Business Center • Belden Mktng. • Jems Appliances • Buy Smart • Listening Style • Sound Quest Electronic Center • Balcap • Wilsonic Marketing • A Plus A

Provincial Dealers: Luzon
TSB Bazaar Baguio City • Audio Mix Calamsayan, San Jose Batangas • Joy's Radio Center & Record Bar • Ocampos Angeles • Ocampos Mega Store Metro Mall, Poblation, Balanga Balaan, Arthur St WBB Olongapo City, Dinalupihan Public Market, Dinalupihan, Balaan

Visayas & Mindanao:
Thosson's Marketing Dacuno Bldg cor Lerma & Panganiban Drive, Naga City • GC Appliance Corp • Siritz Consumer Electronics Cebu City • R.A. Uy Appliance • Fiesta Appliance Center • J&R Nueva St , Cebu City

Exclusively Distributed by: in-a-jiffy G2K Corporation Tel Nos.: 405-0178 / 722-5527

Valentine House opens, but owner stays single

From page A1

Why Santa Claus, and not *belen* (nativity scene) or reindeer?

Because Soria grew up in a town called Santa, nourished by tales of jolly St. Nick, she told the INQUIRER.

Because of the dismal economy and the discouraging television news reports about the meningococcemia scare, Soria decided to turn her Santa Claus obsession into "madness" for heart-shaped trinkets.

"Everything [around me] is depressing. Heart means life. I want life to [breathe] from this house and from Baguio," she said.

Valentine wreaths

Days after the New Year, Soria did not put away her Christmas tree. Instead, she filled it with red heart pendants, heart-shaped pillows and twine painted with tiny hearts.

Now, Valentine wreaths hang on her doors. Hearts dot her shower curtain. A heart-shaped tapestry covers her walls.

Soria is most proud of a humble-looking cross-stitched decoration that says, "Busy hands, Happy heart," because she made it herself.

In this Valentine House, every mantelpiece and tabletop has trains of figurines and stuffed toys that bear Valentine's Day motifs. Her couch is laid out with heart-shaped and heart-decorated cushions sent to her from the United States.

She forgot to marry

When the INQUIRER visited Soria, she was holding a small horse carriage with a heart, which she had bought from the mall.

"I am attracted to anything that has a heart. I try to spend no more than P300 for each piece, but when I get the urge, I spend more," she said.

She expressed her apprehension about launching Valentine House, but was prepared for all the teasing that was sure to come her way.

Soria confessed that she "forgot" to marry a Baguio sweetheart 40 years ago because she was busy taking care of her cousin's children.

She said the children grew up, had kids of their own, who in turn were left in her care, making her a single mother twice over.

Single and blessed

Soria said she goes out with other single women in Baguio, but "no one talks seriously" about the lack of—or absence of—affairs.

"In fact, we gossip about each other's future lovers then we giggle like schoolchildren," she said.

She said her friends do not really enjoy being single because their generation frowns at growing old, unmarried, without children.

In contrast, Soria said being single suits her.

"I can do what I please. I am not lonely because I have many children. I don't regret not getting married," she said in Filipino.

Soria revealed that she had her first boyfriend when she was a teenager. He was from the city. Then she relocated here to help raise her cousin's family.

The relationship lasted for four years, but nothing compelled them to get married, she said.

No sparks

Soria said she entertained many suitors, but no one caught her attention except this Canadian, who became her pen pal when she was in her late 40s.

The man actually came to the Philippines to meet her. "But sparks didn't fly and I was no longer interested in marrying anyone," she said.

Soria also traveled to various parts of the country on relief missions sent by the Methodist Church. She visited Tublay, Benguet; Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte, and parts of Kalinga and Apayao.

Eventually, she would come home to a lonely house. This, however, did not change her views on marriage.

She explained: "The children I helped raise promised that when I am old and feeble they will take care of me. Isn't this why people get married?"

More Pinoys . . .

From page A1

Could this be why there were fewer couples kissing at the "Lovapalooza 2," a midnight kiss fest held at Manila's Baywalk on Saturday?

Based on the poll, the proportion of women who said they were very happy with their love life was 41 percent, down by 18 percentage points over the last two years. Among men, it was 50 percent, down by seven points. The poll was conducted from Nov. 23 to Dec. 2 last year by the Social Weather Stations.

As if to confirm the poll findings, there were only 1,500 couples who registered for yesterday's kiss fest, down from last year's 5,300 couples who smooched for at least 10 seconds on Valentine's Day for "Lovapalooza," breaking Chile's record of 4,445 couples in the Guinness Book of World Records.

The poll also found that overall, only 46 percent of Filipino adults were happy with their love life. It was 58 percent two years earlier.

Forty-four percent said their love life could be happier, up from 32 percent in November 2002. Ten to 11 percent said they had no love life at all, unchanged from the previous survey.

Satisfaction with their love life declined across socioeconomic classes: The ABC classes or the richest brackets had a 52-percent satisfaction rating compared to 43 percent for Class D and 48 percent for Class E.

The poll had an error margin of plus or minus three percentage points.

Lovapalooza 2

Thousands of couples celebrated Valentine's Day a day early by locking lips for 10 seconds—longer if they got carried away—in what organizers dubbed "Lovapalooza 2."

They gathered Saturday night on brightly lit Baywalk along Roxas Boulevard, watched live bands perform, danced and partied.

Following a 10-second countdown, thousands of couples kissed at midnight amid strains of "What the World Needs Now Is Love." Fireworks went off over Manila Bay and cheers erupted.

Leading the kiss fest was Manila Mayor Lito Atienza and his wife Evelina, and local officials and their spouses.

"The theme is a million kisses for the Philippines. We hope to be able to spread to each and everyone of our countrymen that we should forget bickering in our hearts, what we should spread is love," said Atienza, clad in a red floral shirt, his usual attire.

This year's event was aimed at "a million kisses, a million heartbeats, and probably a million people falling in love for the second time around," according to a statement from Unilever Philippines, one of the organizers.

The event was held simultaneously at midnight in at least four cities nationwide. While large crowds turned out, the figures appeared to be well below target.

"We're not beating any record this time. We're building a tradition only," said Unilever's Mia Fuentes.

Spreading love

No records may have been broken, but Lovapalooza 2 was the definitive expression of spreading love.

Thousands of couples from Manila, Cebu, Davao and Angeles cities locked lips, celebrating love and the country's honor of making it to the Guinness Book of World Records earned last year in the first Lovapalooza.

Manila's famed Rajah Sulayman Park in Malate became the center of celebration, with bands Bamboo and Freestyle, singers Kyla and Christian Bautista performing love songs.

Police estimated that 500,000 had turned up, filling the stretch of Roxas Boulevard from President Quirino Avenue to Padre Faura Street—which had been closed to traffic—spilling into the eastbound streets of Remedios and San Andres.

More than 400 uniformed and undercover cops were deployed to keep the crowd secure and under control, said Chief Supt. Pedro Bulaong, director of the Western Police District. *With reports from AFP and AP*

Malaysia tries 'soft approach' on Filipino illegals

By TJ Burgonio

MALAYSIA is employing the "soft approach" to coax thousands of Filipinos illegally working in Sabah to pack up their bags and return to their provinces in the southern Philippines, foreign affairs officials said yesterday.

"If they [illegals] are apprehended, they're given seven days to leave the country. If they [don't] and get caught again, they'll be deported and barred forever from returning to Malaysia," said a Department of Foreign Affairs official in an interview.

"So the crackdown is not being carried out with impunity... what they're doing is a soft approach," added the official, who asked not to be named.

Malaysia adopted this tack after suspending its crackdown on the 1.3 million undocumented migrants, including at least 170,000 Filipinos, in the country on Feb. 1. The suspension has not been lifted.

The suspension came the day after the amnesty program for illegal migrants expired on Jan. 31. The deadline was the second for the program.

Foreign Undersecretary Jose Brillantes confirmed the new Malaysian approach, noting that 22 Filipinos who came home recently were not deported but were asked to "leave voluntarily" under the policy, also known as "operation advice."

"Under that policy, if there are undocumented aliens who are discovered, they will be asked to leave voluntarily. They will not be detained or deported," Brillantes had told reporters earlier.

So far, most of the thousands of Filipinos in Sabah have not budged, though, if the "estimates of hundreds" who voluntarily boarded boats to return to Tawi-Tawi in Mindanao since Feb. 1 were any gauge.

"Many don't have any plans of leaving Sabah. They don't consider themselves Filipinos or Malaysians. They're plainly Tausug... they're like gypsies, they got married and raised their families there," the official said.

Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo has instructed the Philippine Embassy in Kuala Lumpur to step up the campaign to convince undocumented Filipinos to voluntarily return home to avoid being arrested by the Malaysian authorities.

A team, composed of Consuls Antonio Morales and Nicanor David, was dispatched to Kota Kinabalu, Sandakan, Tawau, Lahat Datu and Kudat in northeastern Sabah to look for undocumented Filipinos.

"The team shall encourage undocumented Filipinos to immediately return to the Philippines so that they would be prioritized in the rehiring of workers, this time with the proper working permits, visas and documentation," said foreign affairs spokesperson Gilberto Asuque.

The Department of Labor and Employment, meanwhile, yesterday said it would assist six overseas Filipino workers facing capital punishment in Malaysia.

Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas said she learned from the Philippine Overseas Labor Office in Kuala Lumpur that only six OFWs were facing the death penalty and not 23 as claimed by the militant group Migrante International.

The DOLE chief said two of the cases were on appeal while the other four were subject to appeal.

DOLE did not name the workers or give details of their cases. Migrante said the Filipinos were facing the death penalty for drug and human trafficking. *With Jerome Aning*

DOLE: 38 strikes averted in January

By Blanche S. Rivera

THE COUNTRY has remained strike-free this year after the Department of Labor and Employment succeeded in settling 38 labor disputes in January.

Labor Undersecretary Manuel Imson said the averted strikes resulted in some P7 million in monetary benefits for 722 workers who would have otherwise been affected by the work stoppages.

Another 294 workers were granted a total of P19 million in separation pay, Imson said, citing a report from the National Conciliation and Mediation Board (NCMB).

11 percent fewer

There were 32 firms that filed notices of strike/lockout with the NCMB in January, or 11 percent fewer than the 36 cases during the same period last year.

The number of workers covered by the notices of strike was also lower last month at 4,310 compared to 5,966 in January 2004.

Settlements

The NCMB also settled 38 strikes and lockouts including those pending at the beginning of the month.

"The settlements prevented the escalation of the labor disputes that could have led to strikes and lockouts in the involved firms," Imson said in a statement.

Collective bargaining

Forty-one preventive mediation cases were settled this year, resulting in the facilitation of P1.5 million in Collective Bargaining Agreement packages that benefited 356 workers. Also, 360 workers received a total of P20 million in separation pay benefits.

While the DOLE succeeded in preventing strikes and lockouts, Imson noted that the settlement of strikes took a little longer this year, requiring an average of 49 bargaining days.

Women, kids' law to get proper airing

By Nelson F. Flores

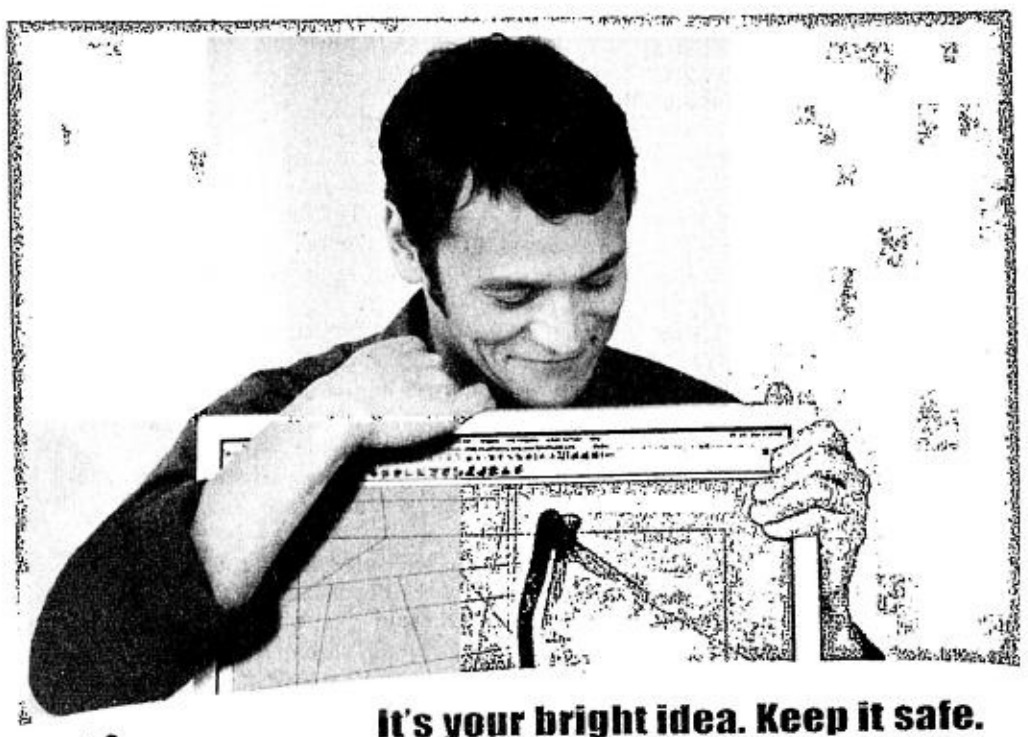
THE DEPARTMENT of Interior and Local Government has launched a campaign aimed at increasing awareness of the existence of a law against violence on women and children.

Under the project, launched recently at the Manila Hotel, the DILG and the Liga ng mga Barangay will conduct an educational campaign in the grassroots level on the social impact of violence against children and women.

"We aim to heighten people's awareness on the existence of Republic Act No. 9262 and the available services provided by the government to the victims of violence," said Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes.

Reyes said the campaign also hoped to strengthen the partnership between the national and local governments in fighting violence against women and children.

Liga president James Marty Lim said they would make sure all barangay leaders and councilors would undergo seminars, noting that many were still ignorant about the law against violence on women and children.



It's your bright idea. Keep it safe.

Your stuff is important. Save it. Store it. Back it up with the push of a button. Maxtor OneTouch II is the only external hard drive with room for up to 300GB worth of great ideas, industry leading software that lets you easily retrieve backed up files, and Maxtor DriveLock™ for added security. Think of it as your computer's new best friend.

Maxtor OneTouch™ II EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE
The perfect place for all the things you love
up to 300GB · FireWire · USB 2.0 · maxtor.com

Maxtor
What drives you.™

AVAILABLE AT
Luzon: Complink Marketing Inc. SM Megamall 637-3068, SM North 920-9140, SM South 801-9000, Makati 893-1491, Galleria 637-0893, SM Bacoor (046) 417-7763, Shangri-La 637-4444, E-Hub (ATC) 837-3318, PC Corner Gilmore 723-1718, PC Express Alabang Town Center 807-6492, Silicon Valley SM North EDSA 927-58317, SM Megamall 633-1724, Parksquare I 812-6734, Villman Pag-asa 456-5177, Cubao 912-4531, Ayala 892-2222, 1.2.3 Computer Shop Baguio (074) 445-4830/442-8357, Bitstop Inc. Dagupan City (075) 522-0092/522-5069, Laser Mktg. Baguio (074) 442-5854/443-3788
Visayas: CBX Corporation Cebu (032) 253-0600/254-0564, Concept Computer Center Iloilo (033) 337-6874
Mindanao: Digital Interface Davao (082) 225-8151 to 52

For more inquiries, please contact maxtor@pldee.com.ph or visit www.maxtor.com

Tee off to a better address.
Move to where life is greener. At the South Forbes Golf City, you are closer to the playing field, and more importantly, to Mother Nature. And while nature has been carefully preserved here, you still enjoy life's modern conveniences. The City is surrounded by schools, churches, commercial establishments and major institutions. You've just found the perfect spot to start a great family life.
SOUTH FORBES
GOLF CITY
GOLF LIFE. GOOD LIFE.
via SANTA ROSA
CATHAY LAND, INC. 23rd Floor Galleria Corporate Center, EDSA corner Ortigas Ave., Q.C. • Tel. (632) 635-8108 • 636-4647 • 637-4812 Fax (02) 631-4069 • www.cathaylandinc.com • Email: info@cathaylandinc.com

Family reunion turns into a funeral wake

By Marlon Ramos
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna—The text message, Lt. Col. Dennis Villanueva's last to his wife, read: "*Hindi ako makakapunta diyan. Ginegera kami dito* (I can't come. We're under attack here)."

Villanueva was supposed to go on leave last week to join his family in a reunion at his sister's house at Nature's Ville here.

But they did not reckon with Moro leader Nur Misuari's guerrillas.

Some time after the colonel punched out his message to his wife Evangeline, a rebel mortar shell exploded near him and his men on Jolo Island. Wounded, Villanueva later died from loss of blood, the highest ranking officer to die in recent years in fighting with the rebels.

The long-awaited reunion had become a funeral wake.

Villanueva's sister-in-law, Isabel Mendoza, said the colonel's immediate family was angered by his death.

It was bitter enough news but what made it even harder to accept was that Villanueva "died just because there was no available blood for him," Mendoza told the INQUIRER.

Evangeline was with the officer's father, retired Judge Rogelio Villanueva, on Thursday when they received a text message informing them that he had been wounded in a gun battle.

"His wife could not believe what she read. She even threw her mobile phone in disbelief," Mendoza said.

The reunion was to have coincided with the blessing of the house owned by Villanueva's sister, Leslie Comia, a nurse working in New York, whom he had not seen for some time.

"He was really such a good man," Mendoza said. "In fact, we were telling each other, why did it have to be him when there are so many officers there with big bellies?" she said.

Air Force gives side

Air Force spokesperson Lt. Col. Restituto Padilla said helicopters were flying on a mission when they received an order to evacuate Villanueva and other wounded soldiers.

"We understand Mrs. Villanueva and how she feels ... But it is not true that we were not able to respond to the call to immediately evacuate her husband," Padilla said.

"Within five minutes of the call, we were able to send the helicopter to get all the wounded soldiers, including Lt. Col. Villanueva," Padilla said.

"Today, we continue to ferry wounded soldiers, and support the ground troops," he said. *With PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Sulu death toll rises to 70

From page A1

manuel Sison, new commander of the 53rd Infantry Battalion. Sison had just taken over from Lt. Col. Dennis Villanueva, who was killed in a mortar attack last week.

Southern Command chief Lt. Gen. Alberto Braganza said casualties were also growing among the insurgents, described as loyal followers of detained Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) leader Nur Misuari.

Braganza said local officials had told the military the latest guerrilla fatalities included three commanders, one of them the younger brother of Malik, whom he did not identify.

The two others were Kumander Awing of Luuk town and Yahya Jailani of Basilan.

Last stand

"Malik is taking a firm and final stand. We are maintaining our strong resolve to finish this," Braganza said.

He said more bombs were being dropped on Malik's group near Panamao town.

Brig. Gen. Agustin Dema-ala, chief of Joint Task Force Comet, said the MNLF gunmen in the Karawan complex in Panamao and Maimbung towns were resisting the military's offensive.

"The resistance is strong so in the process we suffer casualties," Dema-ala said.

He said soldiers and rebels "are now on a shouting distance."

"Our soldiers could hear their shouts. They are very close to each other's location," he said.

Braganza described the situation as "very fluid."

"At least 100 to 200 enemies still hold the lines," the Southcom chief said. "We will continue to pound their positions until they are finally neutralized."

Cause of fighting

Braganza added: "Misuari's groups have no support from the majority of the populace and we are happy that the local government in Sulu has pledged support behind the AFP operation."

The bloodiest fighting with the Moro insurgents in years was triggered by the alleged killing by the Marines of civilians, including a teenage boy, during an operation against the Abu Sayyaf bandits earlier this month.

The military death toll of 30 included some who were killed in an operation on Feb. 1.

A TRUCK carrying body bags rushes to the town center in Jolo. The government suffered more casualties in gun battles with Moro renegades led by Habier Malik (inset), shown in a 2002 photo. AP/JULIE S. ALIPALA

Military estimates put the number of guerrillas wounded at 70 to 100.

Braganza identified one of those wounded as "Ustadz Malik Basher." He did not clarify whether he was referring to MNLF leader Habier Malik or this was another man.

The renewed clashes broke out as about 500 more soldiers docked at the Jolo wharf yesterday as part of the military buildup.

Sat-phones dead

Government forces suffered their latest losses in fighting around the Karawan complex, according to Braganza.

Army reports identified some of the wounded as 1st Lt. Samson Lorenzo and 2nd Lt. Arnold Verana, both of the 53rd Infantry Battalion, and 1st Lt. Romeo Gabun of the 15th Light Armor Co.

On Saturday, military officials had said the tension was subsiding and that the MNLF gunmen were already withdrawing, having run out of food and ammunition.

But users of satellite phones in Sulu said they had not been getting any signals since three days ago.

Officials also said earlier that Malik's group was communicating with other leaders through mobile phones and that the government was trying to cut the links.

Basilan Rep. Gerry Salapuddin said that based on an investigation by his staff, the alleged Abu Sayyaf bandits which the military said soldiers had killed in a raid in Maimbung on Feb. 1 were all civilians.

"One of those killed was a councilor of Barangay Pungol in Maimbung," Salapuddin said.

He said the other slain "civilians" were Parsin Padiwan, his wife Nurshida and their 14-year-old son Aldasir. The couple's 8-year-old son, Sayang, was wounded.

Shot by a woman

The death of the councilor and his family fueled the current violence, he said.

Malik, in an earlier statement, said the "massacre" was only one example of abuses committed by the military in Sulu.

Braganza said soldiers from the 53rd IB were conducting an operation in the area and knocking "on the door of a house there."

"When two of our soldiers opened the door, a woman shot them. A firefight ensued," he said.

Sulu Rep. Hussin Amin rejected the military's version and urged President Macapagal-Arroyo to form an investigating body.

Malacañang said yesterday it was still not considering calling a halt to the Jolo operations, but that it had ordered the military to reduce "collateral damage," meaning casualties among the civilian population.

"While calls for a ceasefire are welcome, it is not that easy to implement," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said in a radio interview.

Bunye added: "Justice has to be served first ... We cannot allow lawless elements to simply walk away from what they have done. This will only invite more terrorism and crime."

He said the decision to stop fighting was in the hands of officers on the ground. *Reports from Julie S. Alipala, Ed General and Joselle Badilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau; Christian V. Esguerra and Juliet Labog-Javellana in Manila; and INQUIRER wires*

THE ORIGINAL!
MAGIC SING
VIDEOKE MICROPHONE
TRUSTED
BY THESE TRUSTWORTHY DEALERS
SM Appliance Center · SM Fiesta mall · Rustan's Department Store · Ambassador Appliances, Inc. · Anson Emporium · Shoewise · makro · Precision · Gaisano South Group · Metro · Gaisano · Hotel Rembrandt · Crossings · Department Store · Sound Dimension · Park Square 1 · Gillamac's · 5th Ave Electronic City · Radio City · Magic Appliance Center · Imperial Appliance Plaza · Optimum Trader Currency Specialist · EMCOR · Deeco · Ocampo's · Conpinco · Mike's Dept. Store · Marketing
2005 Edition MAGIC SING XTREME VER.2.5 With new added features! Handheld Video Karaoke Microphone
FREE!
Leatherette Mic Jacket, Mic Stand, and Neckphone
Manufactured by: ET Enter Tech Co. Ltd. (Korea)
MAGIC SING XTREME also available in these following outlets:
METRO MANILA
QUIAPO / BINONDO
Armstrong Electronics 733-2849
Delta Appliances 733-4653
AJD Electronics 736-3880
JMD Electronics 736 3880
Gemetric 314-8871
Joy's Electronics 734-1819
Hi-Mark Sales 736-1882
Jems Appliances 703-1024
Millennium Electronics 314 8508
OK Electronic 733-9691
Richland 734 3591
Santech Electronics 734-1821
W & M Marketing 735-4274
Worldwide Audio & Video 241-3440
MALATE / MAKATI / PARAÑAQUE / MUNTINLUPA
A. Salonga 400-4492
Image Video 525-1015
Sohan Audio & Video Int'l 627-1171
Phasetron Audio Systems 819 7372
Metro Trading 776-8626
Alabang Marketing 533-4653
PROVINCIAL
BAGUIO Rajat Electronics (074) 444-6340
BATAAN Ocampo's Mega Store, Inc. Balanga (047) 237-2043 Dinalupihan
BICOL Multibrand (054) 473-7262
CAVITE V. Divina Enterprises (046) 890-0399
CEBU A. Salonga (032) 232-5378 M. Miranda (032) 262-3810
DAVAO Funtronics (082) 227-0545
ILOCOS NORTE Ricafort Trading (077) 770-3410
LAOAG New India Dept. Store (077) 772 0679 (077) 772-0478
LAGUNA MSC Data Exchange (049) 562 7172
OLONGAPO Ocampo's Olongapo, Inc. (047) 222-4444 (047) 223-3000 (047) 222-2548
PANGASINAN Ricafort Trading (075) 522-7112
PAMPANGA Downtown (045) 900-0225 Ocampo's Emporium (045) 863-0084 Ocampo's Jewelry (045) 888-2649
SOUTH COTABATO D' Sunata Record Bar General Santos (083) 553-5073 Koronadal (083) 228-3844
TUGUEGARAO New Tuguegarao Bombay bazaar (078) 844-2560 (078) 846-2250
ZAMBALES Ocampo's Subic (047) 232-2630
Exclusively Distributed by: THE ASTRA GROUP, INC. For wholesale & dealership inquiries, dial 722-4056 or 722-8052, or visit us at G/F Richbelt Tower, 17 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila www.astramagicsing.com

Revelry couldn't ease grief

By Nikko Dizon

THE UPROAR from the fiesta celebration on Libertad Street in Pasay City echoed through the second floor of the Veronica Memorial Chapels, where Marine Private Jowie Casucay lay.

His mother Feliza leaned on the white flag-draped coffin of her 23-year-old son and wept.

On top of the box lay a mute Marine cap.

"He wanted to help his siblings," Casucay's father Virgilio said as he sat in a pew, glancing at his wife.

On the street below, horses pulling carriages raced one another, their hooves clip-clopping on the pavement, as the fiesta revelers laughed, cheered and roared.

They were among the people Casucay had died for.

Casucay was one of 13 soldiers of the 5th Infantry Battalion who were ambushed and killed by Moro rebels in Patikul, Sulu, on Feb. 7.

Fatal wounds

Twelve other soldiers were to die in the Jolo clashes before Casucay was to reach Libertad.

Virgilio said his son was hit twice in the neck and once in the forehead.

A computer programming graduate, Casucay worked at a factory but left it to join the Marines so he could help his family financially.

As a soldier, he would send P4,000 a month—without fail—to his sisters Daisy, a college student, and Rose Anne, a high school senior, to help them with their school expenses, Virgilio said.

Honors for the heroes

"I think he also liked being a soldier. He wouldn't have joined the Marines if he didn't want to become one," said Virgilio, a tricycle driver in Amadeo, Cavite.

The remains of Casucay and nine of the slain soldiers were airlifted to Villamor Air Base on Saturday. Honors await the 10 at the Bonifacio Naval Station at 9 a.m. today. *(See list on this page.)*

Helping the bereaved

Marine T/Sgt. Miguel de Guzman had the heart-wrenching task of making sure that all the needs of the bereaved families were attended to at the funeral parlor.

De Guzman told the INQUIRER that the Armed Forces would shoulder all the funeral expenses the families would incur, under a memorial plan from an insurance company.

The military has also given each family P40,000 as "mass contribution" and is lining up other financial benefits.

"It is a big help to our family," Lt. Reynaldo Ricalde's mother Sonia said, pondering over how much it would cost her and her husband Jose Jr. to bring their eldest son back home to Albay.

Sonia decided to use the P40,000 to buy her 28-year-old son a beautiful white casket.

"There's a P15,000 ceiling for the caskets, but we bought him something nicer to repay him for all his sacrifices for us," Sonia said.

Brother a soldier, too

As a first lieutenant, Ricalde earned a basic pay of P20,000, which helped send his four siblings to school. A younger brother, Jason, is now a second lieutenant assigned in Tanay, Rizal.

Cpl. Renato Rodriguez, 25, earned less than Ricalde but made it a point to send his parents, Maxima and Avelino, P1,000 each monthly.

He had also been providing for his common-law wife Catherine and year-old son RJ.

Avelino, a farmer from Indang, Cavite, said his son had always wanted to become a soldier.

'Don't look at his face'

"He often played with guns and fought off imaginary enemies," he said, smiling at the memory.

Soldiering became Rodriguez's way of life because his parents could not send him to college.

Love and pain etched on her face, Maxima held on to her son's framed picture. She and her husband had been told not to look at his remains because his face had been blown off.

Last act of love

"When we learned that we couldn't see him anymore, we immediately had his small ID picture enlarged and framed," said Rodriguez's sister, Lolita.

One of Maxima's regrets is that little RJ would never get to know his father.

She and her husband want their son's family to now live with them, however scarce money may be. "We would like to take care of them," she said.

It is the least Maxima feels they can do for a son who gave up his life in a last act of love.

10 fallen soldiers

THE REMAINS of 10 of the more than two dozen soldiers so far killed in the fighting on Jolo were airlifted to Villamor Air Base on Saturday.

Met by a team of Marine and Air Force officials, the slain soldiers were 1st Lt. Reynaldo Ricalde, company commander; Sergeants Edwin Leonen and Arnel Banta; Cpl. Renato Rodriguez; Privates First Class Delfin Accad, Ledred Pocasa and Domingo Fermante; and Privates Jon Jon Quejado, Redentor Ressurrecion and Jowie Casucay.

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Valentine's Day dates back to erotic fest

By Jo Biddle

AN APPARENTLY love-struck Syrian examines a Valentine Day gift item being sold at a Damascus hotel Feb. 12. REUTERS

PARIS—Despite its increasing commercialization, Valentine's Day supposedly stretches back to Roman times named after a saint martyred for defying the emperor and marrying couples in secret.

But the exact origins of the day have been lost in the mists of time, as has the true identity of Saint Valentine.

The most popular legend says that Saint Valentine defied Emperor Claudius II of Rome, who had banned all marriages and engagements within the city, because he believed love-struck men were failing to join his legions.

Eventually Saint Valentine was caught and sentenced to be beaten to death and decapitated on Feb. 14, around 270 AD.

The day fell around the ides of February, which were already in Roman times a festival of eroticism to honor Juno Februata, the queen of Roman gods and goddesses.

During the celebration of Lupercalia, the Romans would place the names of young women in a box which would then be drawn by men seeking a partner for feasting and erotic games.

But the early Christians were a dour lot, and sought to superimpose Christian festivals on existing holidays deemed too pagan and improper.

As other festivals were substituted with holidays to honor the saints, so Saint Valentine gradually became synonymous with the feast of lovers.

Even the Catholic Church seems to have trouble pinning down who Saint Valentine was.

According to the Catholic Encyclopedia "at least three Saint Valentines, all of them martyrs, are mentioned in the early martyrologies under the date of Feb. 14."

It narrows the field down to two men, asserting: "One is described as a priest at Rome, another as bishop of Interamna (modern Terni) and these two seem both to have suffered in the second half of the third century ... Of the third Saint Valentine, who suffered in Africa with a number of companions, nothing further is known."

Tradition tends to favor the Roman Valentinus, the priest who died after defying Claudius in the year 270.

Some say he died after refusing to give up Christianity, while others favor the version that he was secretly marrying couples.

Yet a third version says Valentine was a physician who cured the sick and once he was arrested, his jailer brought his daughter to him in the hope of her regaining her sight.

Despite his prayers, the girl remained blind but moments before his execution, Valentine called for paper and a pencil and wrote on it "from your Valentine," wrapping it around a blossom which was said to have restored the girl's vision when she received it. *AFP*

China, Russia press N. Korea to return to 6-way nuke talks

SEOUL—North Korea on Sunday came under increasing pressure from traditional allies China and Russia to return to multi-party talks on eliminating its nuclear weapons program.

The diplomatic offensive came as the United States said the six-nation talks were the only appropriate forum for negotiations and South Korea said it would urge Beijing to use its influence with Pyongyang to bring the North back in.

The isolated Stalinist regime on Thursday announced it possesses nuclear weapons and was dropping out of the multilateral talks, accusing the United States of planning to invade.

China at the weekend said it would maintain the pressure on the North, with Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing telling US counterpart Condoleezza Rice that Beijing would keep working to jumpstart the talks.

"(China) will strive to make the situation develop in a positive direction so that the six-party talks could resume as soon as possible," Li was quoted by Xinhua news agency as saying in the telephone talks Saturday.

Russia, traditionally considered sympathetic to the North, issued an unusually strongly worded statement that Pyongyang would have made the "wrong choice" if it decided to quit the discussions.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov said at a meeting of security experts in the German city of Munich Saturday: "If the information in question proves accurate, I would say that North Korea has made the wrong choice. I believe we should do all we can to keep that state in the treaty framework."

The reactions highlighted growing US-led international pressure on the North since it claimed to have already developed nuclear weapons. *AFP*

Head of Iraq food program blocked audit

NEW YORK—The UN oil-for-food program chief under scrutiny for alleged corruption and mismanagement blocked a proposed audit of his office around the same time he was accused of soliciting lucrative oil deals from Iraq, according to investigators.

A UN auditing team said running the $64-billion (euro50 billion) oil-for-food program was "a high risk activity" and a priority for review. But Benon Sevan denied the internal auditors' request to hire a consultant to examine his office in May 2001—an act top investigators of the program are now questioning.

"I think the auditors thought they were steered away from some areas," Paul Volcker, who's leading the independent probe, said. "Our judgment is that the main office should have been audited. And that leaves the inference that perhaps the auditors were not encouraged to do the work."

Two months after Sevan refused the auditors' request, a Panamanian company, African Middle East Petroleum, purchased 1 million barrels of oil, which Iraq had allocated to Sevan—one of nine allocations made between 1998 and 2002 involving Sevan and believed to have netted the company $1.5 million, said an interim report Volcker's committee released this month.

The head of AMEP, Fakhry Abdelnour, a friend of Sevan, told investigators he paid $160,000 as a kickback to an Iraqi-controlled account in Jordan in October 2001 under one of the oil-for-food schemes under examination.

Volcker did not say that Sevan received kickbacks but expressed concern at $160,000 (euro124,465) in cash that Sevan said he received from an aunt in his native Cyprus in 1999-2003. *AP*

IT'S BACK!

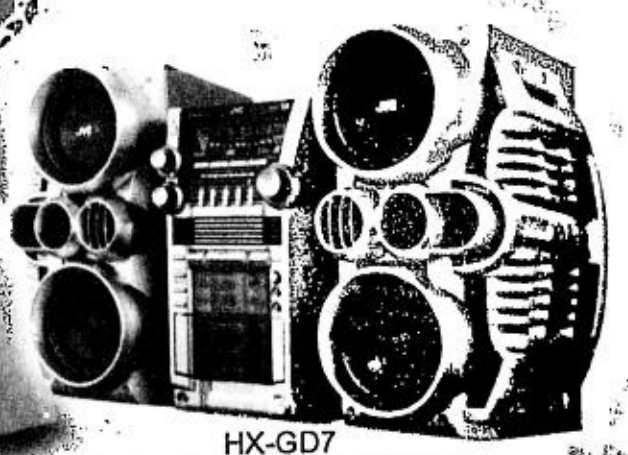
DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND WITH BIGGER AND BETTER PRE-VALENTINE'S OFFER!

MX-JD3
DVD AUDIO / VIDEO SYSTEM
BEFORE: P16,990
NOW P14,990

MX-JD8
DVD AUDIO / VIDEO SYSTEM
BEFORE: P24,990
NOW P21,990

JVC RED TAG SALE

MX-JD5
DVD AUDIO / VIDEO SYSTEM
BEFORE: P22,990
NOW P18,990



HX-GD7
DVD AUDIO / VIDEO SYSTEM
BEFORE: P19,990
NOW P17,990

INCLUSIVE OF 1 JVC MIC. PLUS 3 DVD SOFTWARE FOR EVERY PURCHASE OF ANY OF THE UNITS ABOVE.

Available at all leading appliance stores nationwide.

Distributed & Serviced by: JVC (PHILIPPINES), INC.
JVC BUSINESS CENTER, 918 Arnaiz Ave. (formerly Pasay Rd.) Makati City
Tels. 889-7711 to 22 (Connecting all Depts.)

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 5962 Series of 2004

JVC
The Perfect Experience

SPECIAL PROMO!!!

₱16,500

Plus 7 Telephone Units

(Brand New)

PANASONIC MAIN SYSTEM

- 3 Lines 8 Locals
- 12 Lines 48 Locals
- 500 Locals Expandable

Authorized sub-dealer
intel Communication Corp.
316 Aurallo Bldg. 1, 9th Ave., Caloocan City
363-1083 • 364-8277

FREE DEMO

TRAVEL PLAZA INCORPORATED

PROMO TICKETS	
HONGKONG	$138
SINGAPORE	$233
BANGKOK	$170
YVR/ANC/HNL	$710
KUALA LUMPUR	$214
SAN FRANCISCO	$677
BNE/SYD/MEL/PER	$450
JAKARTA	$295
JFK/CHI/DFW	$760
TAIPEI	$230
JAPAN	$360
NEWARK	$560
LOS ANGELES	$510
EUROPE	$710

INT'L PACKAGE	
3D2N HKG/SZN/CAN	$ 108
3D2N SHENZHEN	$ 98
MALAYSIA PKG	$ 285
BANGKOK PKG	$ 189
SINGAPORE PKG	$ 243
SIN+MALAYSIA+INDONESIA	$ 298
BANGKOK+PATTAYA	$ 232

DOMESTIC PACKAGE	
BOHOL PKG	P 6095
BORACAY PKG	P 6425
DAVAO PKG	P 6310
CEBU PKG	P 5265
BACOLOD PKG	P 5475
DAKAK PKG	P 7115

(ALL PACKAGES EXCLUDING TAXES)
Other INTERNATIONAL and DOMESTIC TICKETS/PACKAGES are available.
We also offer PASSPORTING/VISA ASSISTANCE & other documentation needs

1089 Pablo Ocampo Street, Malate, Manila
Tel.: 524-1405 / 524-0987 / 524-1477
0922-8044156 / 0919-5321555 JO/PAUL

ALL IN, NO HIDDEN CHARGES

WE ASSIST WorldPerks & Mabuhay MILES TRAVEL AWARDS

"ALL Cities ALL Countries"	LAND ARRANGEMENTS	PACKAGES	BORACAY
HONG KONG w/ Shenzhen & city tours	$88 3D 2N	$147	P4800
BANGKOK w/ Daily b'fast & city tour	$31 4D 3N	$230	PUERTO GALERA P3200
SINGAPORE w/ Daily b'fast & city tour	$66 3D 2N	$334	SUBIC P3500 8-10 PAX

TICKET ONLY

HONG KONG	BANGKOK	LAX/SFO	SINGAPORE
$138	$186	$756	$233

Philippine Explorer
438.6165 438.3042 439 6982
TXT to :0922-3718478

VISIT OR CALL OUR OUTLETS
ROBINSONS PLACE, MANILA 302 0029 • 302 0128
FESTIVAL SUPERMALL 642 9020
SM BACOOR (046) 417 3211

PALAWAN P6624

WE SELL RENT

Exhibit & Promo Systems

MADE IN SWEDEN

TRANSAD ADVERTISING INC
4187-1B Negros St., cor. Arellano Palanan Makati City
Tels: 552-9119 / Tel/Fax: 552-7743

BUDGET PACKAGES

VISITA IGLESIA ILOCANDIA P 4880

HOLYLAND TOUR	$ 1528	AFFORDABLE EUROPE	$ 1938
SINGAPORE HOLYWEEK BLOCKINGS	$ 335	BANGKOK HOLYWEEK BLOCKINGS	$ 345
BRUNEI-SINGAPORE HOLYWEEK BLOCKINGS	$ 388	HONGKONG HOLYWEEK BLOCKINGS	$ 478

CANTON → HONGKONG → SHENZHEN	$ 98
3D2N SHENZHEN → HKG CITY TOUR	$ 128
WHITE HONGKONG → WHITE SHENZHEN	$ 129
HONGKONG + COMPULSORY TOUR	$ 145
HONGKONG FREE & EASY	$ 169
HONGKONG → SZN w/ OCEAN PARK	$ 195
HONGKONG → SHENZHEN → SHANGHAI	$ 285
HONGKONG → SHENZHEN → BEIJING	$ 355
HONGKONG → SZN → BEIJING → SHA	$ 435
BANGKOK FULL BOARD PACKAGE	$ 232
BANGKOK → PATTAYA	$ 225
BANGKOK $ 179 SINGAPORE	$ 230
KUALA LUMPUR $ 280 BRUNEI	$ 275
SHANGHAI $ 351 SAIGON	$ 299
BEIJING $ 463 SYDNEY	$ 705

PROMO TICKETS	
HONGKONG,	$ 129
BANGKOK	$ 165
SINGAPORE	$ 190
AUSTRALIA	$ 415
LOS ANGELES	$ 515
SFO/LAX	$ 698
VANCOUVER	$ 735
NEW JERSEY	$ 575
NEW YORK	$ 785
EUROPE	$ 715

FIRST TIME IMMIGRANT FARES AT VERY LOW PRICE!!!
VISA ASSISTANCE, PASSPORT PROCESSING, DOMESTIC TICKETS & LOCAL PACKAGES, CAR RENTALS, HOTEL RESERVATIONS & EDUCATIONAL TOURS

AIR TRAVEL GUIDE & TOURS, INC.
2nd Floor Unit C Davis Bldg., A. Mabini cor. Sta. Monica Sts., Ermita, Manila
Tels.: 400-3013 / 302-6357 Telefax: 522-0354
Cell No. 0917-3295594 E-mail: airtrvl@info.com.ph
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Special Promo Package

BANGKOK

$186 $202 $205

MIN. 2PAX MUST BE TRAVELLING TOGETHER

HONGKONG

$129 $167 $157

SINGAPORE

$289 $299 $294

BUDGET FARES

HONGKONG	$ 135	HONOLULU	$ 705
BANGKOK	$ 165	AUSTRALIA	$ 575
SINGAPORE	$ 233	NEW YORK	$ 755
VANCOUVER	$ 705	NAGOYA	$ 410
OSAKA	$ 410	TAIPEI	$ 295
TOKYO	$ 415	SEOUL	$ 435
LAX / SFO	$ 705	TORONTO	$ 805

SINGAPORE MALAYSIA	SINGAPORE DAY TRIP MALAYSIA INDONESIA
$ 398	$ 349
KUALA LUMPUR PACKAGE	SHENZHEN/CANTON HONGKONG PROMO
$ 322	$ 98

OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC TICKETS PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE.
WE ALSO OFFER PASSPORTING/ VISA ASSISTANCE/ NSO

SANS TRAVEL & TOURS
TEL# 9139560/08, 4388227, 4395769, 4392847
CELL. 0916-2581024, 0919-5634347, 0920-5416440
E-MAIL: sans_travel@yahoo.com / P.Tuazon, Cubao, Q.C.

If you are from Pangasinan,
and you haven't been yet to the
LEISURE COAST RESORT,
you must be a long lost
Pangasinense by now!

A TRIPLE "A" RESORT

Bonuan Binloc, Dagupan City
Tels. 523.9361-63 • 511.5301-02 • 511.5304-07
www.leisurecoast.com

SKYNET TRAVEL IATA PTAA CORPORATION

We are open on Sundays from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm
WE ALSO OFFER OTHER AIRLINE DESTINATIONS, TOUR PKGS, PASSPORT DOCUMENTATION & VISA ASSISTANCE

G/F & 2/F TSE and Sons Bldg. 1743 A. Mabini St. Malate
Tel. Nos. 521-0902 • 521-7406 • 400-0509 • 400-0510
521-9808 • 521-7006 • 527-1300 • 525-4725 • 526-6682
Fax No.: 526-6364 • Motolla No.: (0921) 445-1778
Email: skynettravel@sanadbusph.com

BOOKING OFFICES: Cavite: 284-2037 • Alaminos: (0374) 753-5173 • Bacolod: (0344) 435-0781
Cauayan: (0446) 412-2707 • Cebu: (032) 254-0625 • Dagupan: (075) 522-5078 • Davao: (082) 225-5927
Dipolog: (065) 212-9030 • Iloilo: (033) 335-1171 loc. 588 • Legazpi: (052) 480-9464 • Leyte: (053) 335-2651
Ozamiz City: (088) 521-1555 • San Fernando, La Union: (072) 888-0034

CEBU PACIFIC

2N SHZN 3D/2N • HKG CITY TOUR	$128	SAIGON FREE & EASY 3D/2N	$299
1N HKG+1N SHZN 3D/2N	$129	SIN+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$315
1N HKG+2N SHZN 4D/3N	$143	KUL+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$335
HKG COMPULSORY TOUR 3D/2N	$145	TAIPEI CITY PACKAGE 3D/2N	$347
2N HKG+1N SHZN 4D/3N	$153	SHANGHAI 4D/3N	$353
1N SHZN W/ WINDOWS OF THE WORLD 4D/3N	$159	HKG+SHZN+BEIJING 6D/5N	$355
HKG FREE AND EASY 3D/2N	$169	SGN+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$365
BANGKOK 3D/2N	$179	HKG+SHZN+BEIJING +SHANGHAI 7D/6N	$435
HKG+SHZN W/ OCEAN PARK 4D/3N	$195	BKK+SIN+HKG+SHZN 7D/6N	$435
HKG+SHZN+MACAU 4D/3N	$203	BEIJING 4D/3N	$473
BANGKOK+PATTAYA 4D/3N	$225	SYDNEY 3D/2N	$705
SINGAPORE 3D/2N	$230	US WESTCOAST 9D/8N	$1335
BANGKOK+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N	$275	CANADIAN TOUR 6D/5N	$1378
BRUNEI 3D/2N	$275	EGYPTIAN TOUR 9D/8N	$1480
KUALA LUMPUR 3D/2N	$280	HOLYLAND TOUR 9D/8N	$1528
HKG+SHZN+SHANGHAI 5D/4N	$285	EUROPE 13D/12N	$1938
SIN+MALAYSIA+INDONESIA 4D/3N	$295		

HAVE A COMPETITIVE EDGE!

Study at

VERNON TAPALLA'S

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS and THE WRITING INSTITUTE

Only P2,500 PER COURSE -

- SCB The Success & Confidence Building Program
- CP1 On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development
- CP2 On Grammar & Conversational English
- CP3 On Public Speaking & Leadership Training
- WP1 On Business & Technical Writing
- WP2 On Feature & Creative Writing
- JCP On Speech, Grammar, Public Speaking, Confidence Bldg., Personality Dev't., + Reading and Comprehension **for kids**

PRIVATE TUTORING & CORPORATE TRAINING ARE AVAILABLE

MAKATI - 845-0886 / 753-1049 ALABANG - 753-1048

AIRFARES

Hongkong	$ 129
Bangkok	$ 162
Seoul	$ 337
Shanghai	$ 330
Singapore	$ 190
Australia	$ 420
London	$ 655
LAX/SFO	$ 515 / 600
Newark	$ 600
East Coast	$ 758
Vancouver	$ 732
Kuala Lumpur	$ 212
Europe	$ 715
Saigon	$ 255
Taipei	$ 240

14D GRAND TOUR OF FRANCE $1999

EXCITING PACKAGES

3D2N/TES HKG SZN	$ 89 / 140
2N 1-HKG+1N SZN+OCEAN PARK	$ 220
3N/TES BANGKOK PKG	$ 164
3D2N SINGAPORE PKG	$ 268
4D/3N BKK+ PATTAYA PKG	$ 233
BALI PACKAGE	$ 414
SINGAPORE / KUALA LUMPUR	$ 378
BANGKOK-SINGAPORE	$ 404
3D2N BRUNEI PKG	$ 275
3D2N KUALA PKG	$ 260
AUSTRALIA PKG	$ 650
4D/3N SHANGHAI PKG	$ 396
4D/3N BEIJING PKG	$ 461
JAKARTA PKG	$ 422
TAIPEI PKG	$ 333
8N/TES AMERICA	$1368
10D EUROPE/SWITZERLAND TOUR	$1970
HOLYLAND TOUR 9 DAYS	$1528

BORACAY 3D2N / PALAWAN 5D4N
BOHOL 4D3N / CEBU 2D1N / DAVAO 5D4N
2N/ES CEBU + 2N/ES BOHOL w/hour &PDS

Assistance for Visa, Passport, Immigration
Authentication of Documents / NSO

MBO TOURS AND TRAVEL SERVICES
2/F 1095 P. Ocampo cor. Conchu Sts., Malate, Manila
530-8234 / 484-3581 / 521-4744 / 484-3583/ 522-1107
09172757128 / mbo_tourstravelservices@yahoo.com

COPYSTAR OFFICE AUTOMATION

(introducing) **CLEAR POWDER COPIER**

RICOH FT 3213 Reducer/ Enlarger — For only P21,000

RICOH FT 3513 — For only P17,000

ALSO AVAILABLE :
LAMINATOR, FAX MACHINE, RING BINDER & THERMAL BINDER

OTHER COPIERS ALSO AVAILABLE :
FT 3013 • FT 4220

SALES: 8997101 to 03 • 8997104 8997045 • 8997075 to 76 • 8997023

MAIN OFFICE: COPYSTAR Bldg. 948 J. P. Rizal Ave., near cor. Makati Ave., Makati City • Fax: 895-7802
CEBU OFFICE: 178 Sanslangko St., Cebu City • Tel. Nos.: (032) 255-0504 • (032) 256-3368 to 69
PAMPANGA: Mc Arthur Highway, Dolores, City of San Fernando Tel. Nos.: (045) 963-5055 • (045) 860-0383

MEGA SAVER'S PACKAGE

CANTON / HKG/ SHZN 3 Days / 2 Nites	$98 $108
BORACAY PROMO P6,999	Book 'n' Buy
9D/8N US WEST COAST TOUR	$598
AFFORDABLE EUROPE TOUR	$1,988
2 NITES HONGKONG $176	BANGKOK/PATTAYA $245
BEIJING PACKAGE $463	SINGAPORE/MALAYSIA $398
BANGKOK $190	SINGAPORE, MALAYSIA / INDONESIA $349
SINGAPORE $299	JAKARTA $418
SEOUL $608	SHANGHAI $351
BRUNEI $285	SAIGON $319
MELBOURNE $698	SYDNEY $540

PROMO TICKET FARE

NEW YORK $799	LON / PAR / AMS / VIE $740
SFO/LAX $710	AUSTRALIA $590

Seven Seas Travel and Tours
Unit 158 I CK BY DIAMOND BLDG., LIBERTAD, PASAY CITY
Tel. nos.: 833-1986 / 833-7173 / 833-1714
e-mail: seas88@info.com.ph / seas882003@yahoo.com

HIGH TECHNOLOGY TELECOMMUNICATION

Yours at P2,000/Mo.
Lease to Own

3 Tel. lines/8 locals combination to
8 Tel. lines/20 locals combination

We also offer large system:
For Hotels, Call Centers, Banks, Hospitals, Universities, Offices, Municipalities and more.

Other brands : SAMSUNG & LG

EVERTEL
715-8114 • 411-2100

ARK TRAVEL EXPRESS, INC.

Shanghai 4D/3N	$500	Happy Valentine's!	Singapore 3D/2N $287
Hkg/Shenzhen 3D/2N	$135	AIRFARE ONLY	Kuala Lumpur 3D/2N $318
Bangkok 4D/3N	$195		Beijing 4D/3N $535
Seoul 4D/3N Weekday	$635		Holyland 9 days tour $1,498

For as low as:

HONGKONG	$135
KUALA LUMPUR	$250
SINGAPORE	$228
SHANGHAI	$315
XIAMEN	$145
LAX / SFO	$740
YVR	$770
AUSTRALIA	$440
JFK	$820

Local tours in Boracay, Cebu, & Bohol available

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Unit LG, 3&4 Alfaro Place, 146 Alfaro St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 893-7306 • 893-4979 • 893-7279
892-2259 • 816-1999 • 819-3291
e-mail: ark@i-next.net

IATA

SOMETHING SPECIAL

LIVE IT. HONG KONG I LOVE IT!

$98

BANGKOK $197	SHANGHAI $351
SINGAPORE $310	KUALA LUMPUR $325
BEIJING $560	SAIGON $315

TICKET ONLY:

	US $		US $		US $
HONGKONG	139	KUALA LUMPUR	252	NEW YORK	575
BANGKOK	175	SAIGON	255	VANCOUVER	745
SINGAPORE	230	MACAU	150	AUSTRALIA	425
TOKYO	400	LAX	525	EUROPE	725

LOCAL PACKAGES & DOMESTIC TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE

SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL:
MAGELLAN WORLD TRAVEL, INC. PTAA
TELS: 522-4809 to 11 • 526-5666 • 526-5657
FAX No.: 526-5658

Travel SAFE, Travel SURE, Travel with US...

$385 SAIGON
DEP. DATE: FEB 24-27
MAR 23-26
HO CHI MINH/CUCHI TUNNEL/MEKONG DELTA

$1399 AUSTRALIA EASTER PACKAGE
DEP. DATE: MAR 19-25
GOLDCOAST/BRISBANE/SYDNEY

KOREA EASTER PACKAGES

$775 DEPARTURE DATES: MAR 21-25, MAR 22-26 VIA PHILIPPINE AIRLINES
SEOUL/EVERLAND/MT SORAK/SUANBO W/"NANTA PERFORMANCE SHOW"

$1075 DEPARTURE DATE: MARCH 21-27 VIA KOREAN AIR
JEJU/SEOUL/MT DAEDUN/ LOTTE WORLD/EVERLAND

$999
2 CITIES IN 1
SYDNEY W/ MELBOURNE

GROUP TOURS
INCLUSIONS: RT AIRFARE /HOTEL ACCOM / FULLBOARD MEALS/DAILY TOURS AND TRANSFERS/ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE

FARES				PACKAGE	
SEOUL	$380	KUALALUMPUR	$257	**SEOUL	$610
BANGKOK	$176	SYD/MEL	$640	**BANGKOK	$228
HONGKONG	$143	GUAM	$426	**HONGKONG	$206
SINGAPORE	$238	HONOLULU	$715	**SINGAPORE	$299
SAIGON	$250	VANCOUVER	$775	SAIGON	$310
SFO/LAX	$716	JAKARTA	$295	**KUALA	$335
PHNOMPENH	$405	BRISBANE	$670	INCLUSIONS: RT AIRFARE VIA PAL, RT TRANSFERS, 3D/2N HTL ACCOM, DAILY BREAKFAST, **CITY TOUR	
SIEM REP	$405	AUCKLAND	$720		
TOKYO	$395	LONDON	$670		
BEIJING	$355	XIAMEN	$160		
MACAU	$256	PARIS	$920		
AMSTERDAM	$970	FRANCE/ROME	$920		

RAKSO AIR TRAVEL & TOURING INC.
G/F All Seasons Bldg., 112 Aguirre St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 812-9667; 840-2681; 812-9509 Fax No. 8402484; 812-8035
E-mail address: rakso@mozcom.com; ling_rakso@yahoo.com
IATA PTAA

If you are from Pangasinan, and you haven't been yet to the LEISURE COAST RESORT, you must be a long lost Pangasinense by now!

Bonuan Binloc, Dagupan City
Tels. 523.9361-63 • 511.5301-02 • 511.5304-07
www.leisurecoast.com

A TRIPLE "A" RESORT

MULAN 木蘭旅行社 TRAVEL SERVICE CORP.

4D SHANGHAI		dep: Mar 4, 18
4D BEIJING	1'25	dep: Mar 1, 15
6D BEIJING / SHANGHAI		dep: Mar 1, 15
7D BEIJING/SHANGHAI/XIAMEN		dep: Mar 1, 15

CUSTOMIZED PACKAGES (create your own itinerary)

13D	AFFORDABLE EUROPE	dep: Mar 28 $1,988
13D	ITALY & FRANCE with LOURDES	
7D	SYDNEY/GOLDCOAST PACKAGE	dep: Mar 19 $1,338
7D	VANCOUVER/CANADIAN ROCKIES	$448. + airfare (Triple Sharing)
8D	EASTCOAST PACKAGE	$528. + airfare (Triple Sharing)
9D	WESTCOAST PACKAGE	$625. + airfare (Triple Sharing)
7N	ALASKA CRUISE	May 21 & 28 $1,559.00 (fly/cruise)
6D	TOKYO TOUR	3/21, 4/12,26, 5/17,30
6D	KOREA TOUR	3/8,22, 4/5,19, 5/16,17,31

525 NUEVA ST., BINONDO, MANILA
Tel.: Leni 244-9690, Jedy: 245-4658, Tessie 309-1758, Lily: 244-9692
E-mail: travelmulan@yahoo.com or mulantravel@hotmail.com Cell. No.: 0917-514-8378

HONEYHOLIDAYS

7D	HKG SHENZHEN (with Windows of the World) ZHUHAI MACAU+CANTON (w/ Panyu Safari) FULLBOARD except in HKG dep. March 24 only	$369
8D	HKG SHENZHEN (with Windows of the World) ZHUHAI/MACAU (1 night stay) +CANTON (w/ Panyu Safari) FULLBOARD except in HKG dep. March 19 only	$399
3D	HONGKONG Dep. Every Sat until Feb 26 Stay at Marco Polo Hotel	$199
4D	HKG+SHENZHEN Dep. Feb 19 & 26	$147
4D	MALAYSIA+SINGAPORE (w/ Sentosa) FULLBOARD Dep. March 24 only	$388
4D	BANGKOK Dep. Every Wed & Fri until Feb 25	$179
6D	BANGKOK+PATTAYA FULLBOARD Dep. Every Fri until Feb 25	$269
6D	BANGKOK+CHANGMAI+CHIANGRAI FULLBOARD Dep. Every Thursday until Feb 24	$399
6D	BANGKOK+SINGAPORE (Free & Easy) Dep. March 24 only	$399
6D	ANGKOR WAT+BANGKOK Dep. every Friday until Feb 25	$488
6D	KUALA LUMPUR+GENTING+BKK FULLBOARD Dep March 22 only	$558
6D	KUALA LUMPUR+GENTING+MALACCA +SINGAPORE (with Sentosa) FULLBOARD Dep March 23 only	$538
5D	KUALA LUMPUR+GENTING FULLBOARD Dep March 25 only	$315
6D	BEIJING/SHANGHAI Dep Feb 19 26 & March 25	$299 $339
9D	VIETNAM (Hanoi + Halong Bay) +GUILIN (China) FULLBOARD Dep. March 19 only	$599
11D	SYDNEY+MELBOURNE+CANBERRA +BLUE MOUNTAIN+KUALA LUMPUR FULLBOARD Dep March 23 & April 20	$1,380
13D	NEW YORK+PHILADELPHIA+WASH.DC +NIAGARA FALLS+KUALA LUMPUR Dep: March 23, April 20 & May 11	$1,680
8D	JAPAN (FUJI MT.+SHINKANSEN RIDE+OSAKA/UNIVERSAL STUDIO+KYOTO/NAGOYA/MT. HIEI EXPO)	$1,780

•MAKATI: 892-8631 to 36/892-4704 to 05/802-4472
•BINONDO: 247-1456 to 57 •Q.C.: 434-3879 / 924-1957
•STA. CRUZ 733-4254 / 711-6776 •JUAN LUNA: 243-8383 to 84
•SAN JUAN: 722-6514 / 700-2814 •SAMPALOC: 740-3687 / 416-5371
•CEBU: 231-8093 / 231-8935 •BACOLOD: 434-7244/709-0291
•ILOILO: 300-9260/300-9268 •DUMAGUETE: 2253914 / 225-7280
•Iligan Ang: 0917-5268838 •Lorlie: 0917-6270166

SHINTA PANORAMA

華夏博覽

B1	Beijing 4 Days
H1	Shanghai 4 Days
C1B6	Beijing, Shanghai 6 Days
C1A	Beijing, Xian, Guilin 6 - 8 Days
C1B	Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Guilin 6 - 9 Days
C1C	Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Guilin 6 - 10 Days
C2	Hangzhou, Shanghai, Beijing, Xian, Guilin 7 - 11 Days

A Yantze River Cruises Tour 5 Days w/ Extention 5 - 12 Days

D Pilgrim Series Mount Putuo 4 Days w/ Extention 4 - 11 Days

Silk Road, Inner-Mongolia, Tibet, JiuZhaiGou National Park, Zhang Jia Jie National Forest Park, Central China Cultural Tours, Southwest Scenic Area (Shangri-la), and more.....

*Accept hotel and air ticket booking throughout China.

For more details pls. contact your nearest travel agency or

PANDA TRAVEL SERVICE INC.
479 - 481 Sto. Cristo Street, Binondo, Manila
Tels. 242-2585 Trunk line Fax: 242-2650 : 242-2652
PTAA IATA DOT 153-00
Http://www.pandatour.com

TRANSNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURS, INC.

MAKATI:	BONI/EDSA:	COMMONWEALTH:
Tel. # 753-3388/1121/2821 Fax # 753-5588 Cell # 0917-7918236	Tel. # 533-7731 / 747-1284 Fax # 5325715 Cell # 0917-8523687	Tel # 431-4629/430-6946 952-7974 Cell # 0917-5391653

E-mail: trans_fare@nxdsl.com.ph / Website: www.transnational.netfirms.com
Domestic tickets and tour packages available
We assist in all your passport, visa and other documentation needs

HONGKONG	75	133	SEOUL	160	370
SINGAPORE	165	180	KUALA LUMPUR	170	250
BANGKOK	175	160	HONOLULU	340	710
MACAU	90	140	LOS ANGELES	330	690
TOKYO	190	400	NEW YORK	380	780
OSAKA	190	400	GUAM	290	400
FUKUOKA	190	400	VANCOUVER	340	710
NAGOYA	190	310	EUROPE	325	710
TAIPEI	140	200			
SAIGON	195	245			

2N SHENZHEN VIA HKG	3D	VIA PAL	$135
2N HKG+SHENZHEN TOUR			$145
XIAMEN	4D	VIA PAL	$278
SINGAPORE		VIA QR	$230
SIN+MALAYSIA+INDONESIA			$280
BANGKOK FIRST HOUSE		VIA LH	$180
SHANGHAI		VIA CATHAY PACIFIC	$340
HKG/SZN + BANGKOK	5D		$269
HKG/SZN + SINGAPORE			$315
HKG/SZN + KUALA LUMPUR			$338
HKG/SZN + SAIGON			$360

CHINA TOURS

MOST INCREDIBLE BARGAIN

FULL BOARD PACKAGE TOUR - ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE
GUARANTEE DEPARTURE

4D/3N BEIJING $488
DEP. DATE -EVERY FRIDAY
VIA CATHAY PACIFIC
BEIJING / GREAT WALL

7D/6N BEIJING / XIAN / SHANGHAI TOUR $1028
DEP. DATE - 18FEB / 21MAR
VIA PAL or CX
BEIJING / XIAN / SHANGHAI

6D/5N JIUZHAI GOU VALLEY TOUR $548
DEP. DATE -23 MAR
CHARTER FLIGHT
CHENGDU / CHONGQING

9D/8N CHINA SOUTHWEST TOUR $1228
DEP. DATE - 23FEB / 23MAR
VIA PAL or CX
CANTON / GUILIN / KUNMING

6D/5N 3GORGES / YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE TOUR $689
DEP. DATE -23 MAR
CHARTER FLIGHT
CHENGDU / CHONGQING

11D/10N CHINA / YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE TOUR $1398
DEP. DATE -18MAR
VIA PAL & CX
BEIJING / XIAN / SHANGHAI

FOR RESERVATIONS AND FURTHER INQUIRIES, PLEASE VISIT OR CALL

HORIZON travel & tours inc IATA
MAIN: 1128 United Nations Avenue, Paco, MNL
Tel#s 3060259 to 61 / 5212586 FAX # 4001503
EMAIL ADDRESS : horizon@thenet.ph
BINONDO: 345 San Vicente St., Binondo, MNL
Tel #s 3093308 to 10 / 3091122 / 2429179 Fax # 2429133
EMAIL ADDRESS : httbdo@info.com.ph

Hamas vows to maintain truce, hold off immediate retaliation

GAZA—Hamas promised on Saturday to maintain a de facto truce and, in a major policy change, not to retaliate immediately for any Israeli violence while it weighs Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas' ceasefire with Israel.

"Hamas' position regarding calm will continue unchanged and Israel will bear responsibility for any new violation or aggression," Ismail Haniyah, a senior leader of the militant group, told Reuters after talks with Abbas.

But in a new understanding with Abbas, Mahmoud al-Zahar, another Hamas leader, said the group would consult with the Palestinian Authority before responding to Israeli military action that fell short of "incursions and assassinations."

The arrangement appeared to be aimed at preventing the kind of eruption of violence that occurred on Thursday when Hamas and the Islamic Jihad group launched mortar and rocket barrages at Jewish settlements in Gaza after troops killed a Palestinian.

Abbas told Hamas and the Islamic Jihad group, which also agreed to the deal, that "no faction should be allowed to respond on its own to any Israeli violation," a Palestinian official said.

Both groups, which had largely abided by a de facto truce over the past several weeks, said they needed more consultations before reaching a final decision on the ceasefire he brokered with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon at a summit on Tuesday.

Ending violence is central to Abbas' hopes of reviving a US-backed peace "road map" that charts mutual steps toward the creation of a Palestinian state alongside a secure Israel. *Reuters*

French losing battle vs English

PARIS—The dominance of English as the world's lingua franca continues to grow, with the number of pupils studying French dwindling every year, language teachers from several countries gathered at a Paris trade show this week said, many with regret.

The predominance of English on the Internet, the relative ease of learning basic English and the perception that English is "cooler"—thanks in large part to popular music and films—means French is becoming more and more restricted to older generations and the upper classes of many countries where it used to be the second language of choice in schools, they said.

"Some among us see a sort of victory in this. But personally, I side with a campaign in the British press against our deficit in learning languages," Julie Squires, a Briton who teaches French at Oxford House College, told AFP at the Expolangues show in southern Paris.

In Britain, she said, much of the problem lies with a recent government decision to make a second language optional for pupils 14 years and older.

She pointed to a study which showed that, across British schools, 72 percent registered a decline in the number of students learning French. German studies declined in 70 percent of the schools, while Spanish declined by just 44 percent. *AFP*

traveling in appreciation of GOD's beautiful & bountiful creations
EUROPE SIGHTSEEING & PILGRIMAGE TOUR APR 19 & MAY 12 • US$ 2,985
MEDJUGORJE w/ LOURDES & FATIMA MAY 15 • $2,982
US WEST COAST TOUR 8 Days $1,440 • 11 Days $1,690
HOLLAND, JORDAN & EGYPT APR 11 & 25 • US$ 1,598
FLY & CRUISE
7N California Coastal • $1,386
7N Alaska • $1,709
10N California & Mexico • $1,531
12N Scandinavia & Russia • $2,635
Sydney & Goldcoast $769
Sydney & Melbourne $769
Auckland / Christchurch $1,132
3D Bangkok $210
3D Guam $341
PIRKKO & TROY TOURS, INC. Unit 210 City & Land Mega Plaza (2nd flr. Parking Level) ADB Ave. cor. Garnet St., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tels.: 688-8846 • 688-8658 • 687-2694 Fax: 688-8846 E-mail: pirkkotroy@yahoo.com

CURE BAD BREATH NOW
Don't be a foul mouth. Eliminate bad breath and related problem of sour/bitter tastes, dry mouth, thick pasty saliva, post nasal drip, phlegm in throat, white coating in tongue with
THERABREATH KIT
Free use of Halimeter to detect the source of bacteria and monitoring bad breath condition
Call: 0915-4309207 0917-8511049

HALF PRICE! SPACIO home and office design
Our Spacio office partitions are so affordable - you would think they were half-priced!
CALL US:
MODULAR METAL PHILIPPINES, INC.
2nd Floor West City Plaza Building
#66 West Avenue, West Triangle, Quezon City
Tel. 374-7737 • Telefax 374-7738
E-mail: spacio888@yahoo.com

NEW ARRIVAL DIGITAL SCALE
BARCODE DIGITAL SCALE with RS232
COIN COUNTING SCALE
Ideal for: Banks, Hardware, Grocery, Arcade Center
DIGITAL PLATFORM SCALE
Different scale models available at P290 Up
634.4911 or 18 0917.852.7232 0922.833.8187

A FAMILY INVESTMENT
NEW CORINTHIAN EXECUTIVE Regency
for as low as P7,958/mo.
IN-HOUSE FINANCING AVAILABLE
A LOT AWAY FROM ROBINSON'S GALLERIA
39-storey office, commercial & residential condominium
2003 Leading Condo Developer (Presidential Awardee)
CITYLAND 812-2222 • 243-6565 • 818-8888
241-1894 • 892-6150 • (0919)310-8553
www.cityland.net • investment@cityland.net

VALENTINE TREATS
CANTON / HKG / SHENZHEN $98
HONGKONG + 1N SHZN $108
HONGKONG+COMPULSORY TOUR $145
1N HKG+1N SHZN+OCEAN PARK $195
1N SHZN+1N ZHUHAI+MACAU $138
HONGKONG+SHZN+MACAU $203
MACAU $208
BANGKOK $179
BANGKOK+PATTAYA $225
SINGAPORE $230
MALAYSIA+INDONESIA $328
SINGAPORE+KUALA LUMPUR $380
SAIGON $295
GUAM $338
SHANGHAI $348
KUALA LUMPUR $280
BEIJING $473
SEOUL $448
BEIJING SHA/SHZN HKG $435
SINGAPORE+HONGKONG $308
CHANGMAI $358
SAIPAN $378
EASTCOAST+CANADA $588
AUSTRALIA $668
PANORAMIC JAPAN $960
EGYPT/HOLYLAND/JORDAN $1,738
EUROPE $1,938
LOS ANGELES $528
HONOLULU $598
SAN FRANCISCO $698
NEWARK $578
JFK $708
WAS / CHICAGO $748
VANCOUVER $698
TORONTO $798
SYD, BNE / MEL / ADL $428
LONDON $648
PAR / AMS / VIE $708
BANGKOK $163
SINGAPORE $235
HONGKONG $128
JADDAH $298
DUBAI $228
CORREGIDOR ISLAND P910
CEBU P2,900
BORACAY P4,015
BOHOL P4,505
DAVAO P4,880
BACOLOD P3,070
PALAWAN P3,990
DOLJUNTS INT'L TRAVEL & TOURS
doljunts_travel@yahoo.com • doljunts@pldtdsl.net.ph
Suite 1833 Citiland Mega Plaza Tower, ADB Ave. Ortigas Complex, Pasig City
MOBILE: (0927)915-4590•(0920)789-3048•(0919)682-6025 Telefax: 6872808
TEL.NOS. 914-0398 - 99•6872808•6872739•6872818•6872984•6872836

SUPER BRAND PLATINUM 2004
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2003
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2002
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2001
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2000
SUPER BRAND GOLD 1999

BEST
Quality. Variety. Affordability. After-Sales Service.
Car Washer/ Multi-Purpose Cleaner
Commando 707 • 100 BAR/1500 PSI • 2.5 HP
P3,900 ONE SET
FREE DELIVERY within Metro Manila
With AFTER SALES SERVICE
Exclusively Distributed by: CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED
Major Credit Cards Accepted (Additional 7% Interest). Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos
MAIN OFFICE: 1851 M. OROSA ST., MALATE, MLA.
Tel. Nos.: 5244328 • 5240529 • 5245290
QUEZON CITY BRANCH 646 QUEZON AVE Tel. 7490581 • 7493709

The Colors of Flying
EXCITING PACKAGES
HONGKONG $129 $145 $195
BANGKOK $179 $189 BANGKOK+PATTAYA $225 $235
SINGAPORE $230 KUALA LUMPUR $280 SEOUL $445
WEST COAST TOUR $ 590
AUSTRALIA $ 530
EUROPE $1,938
AFFORDABLE FARES
LOS ANGELES / SAN FRANCISCO $698
HONGKONG $135 SINGAPORE $230 BANGKOK $168
DOMESTIC PACKAGES
SILANG/TAAL/LIPA PILGRIMAGE TOUR P3,000
LAGUNA PILGRIM DAY TOUR P3,000
WHALE SHARK INTERACTION TOUR P6,050
CEBU P4,300 PUERTO GALERA P2,398 PUERTO PRINCESA P5,803
COLORS TRAVEL & TOURS
Rm. 611 Pacific Bldg., Quintin Paredes St., Binondo, Manila
Tel: 241-8175 Tel/Fax: 242-0798 Mobile: 0922-8120961
Email: colorstravel@fastmail.fm

SUPER GEL Superior ROLLER BALLPEN
BL-SG-7
PILOT Smooth Advancement in writing technology

COPIERS Sales/Rentals
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
Also Available : LIQUID COPIERS
BRAND NEW! RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS
P 15,000. ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3320 15 CPM
P 49,900. ONLY
BRAND NEW CANON FC 250 FOR PERSONAL USE
P 15,000. ONLY RECON FULL COLOR DIGITAL COPIER
P 15,000. ONLY
PARTS & SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR MOST COPIER BRANDS!
COPYTRADE.
Copytrade Bldg. 550 MF Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ.)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56 781-3472 • 749-8216
www.copytrade.com.ph
• RINGBINDERS / LAMINATORS CUTTERS/BLUEPRINT/RISO
• FAX MACHINES, ETC.
ACCEPT COPIER RENTALS FOR SHORT EVENTS
• BUY/TRADE-IN OLD COPIERS

Panagbenga Baguio Flower Festival, PMA Homecoming Special Promo Rates
BAGUIO VACATION APTS
Brand New
P2,500/day 2BR 5 Beds
P3,500/day 3BR 10 Beds
• Extra Beds / cooking allowed Spacious • Garden for jogging / biking • Foggy • Beautiful sunset view • Clubhouse w/ meeting rooms & fireplace
Pines Garden Villas Subd.
Asin Road, Baguio Circumferential Road.
09213417747.074-4455546.09189403711.8522466

KITANO Call now at: 890-5310 • 890-5320
e-mail ad: kBoffice@yahoo.com website: www.nibsworld.com
HEAVY DUTY BINDERS: Wire Binder WB-4025D NEW Plastic Comb Binder; 40 Holes (14") BM-C24D; 24 Holes (14")
MIMEOGRAPHING MACHINES: Adjustable printing position • Pre-set counter • 120 copies per minute • Dual operation SD-8800
BILL COUNTERS NEW: UV Counterfeit Detector • 900 notes per minute MC-2088; MC-6700II • UV Counterfeit Detector • Variable Speed • Preset and Addition Mode • Note Detection
CHECKWRITERS: CW-1600 • Multi-Currency • 14-digits • HEAVY DUTY; • 10-digits • With Calculator • Embossed Printing • HEAVY DUTY KI-880
LAMINATOR NEW 13 inches LM-330A • Adjustable Temperature • 4 HEAVY DUTY Rollers Other Sizes: 3 & 12.5 inches
BUNDY CLOCK: • Two color Printing • Wi Musical Melody • Auto Card Feed • Auto Column Shifting • Back-up Battery • HEAVY DUTY •

Big savings from a one-time investment.
TODAY'S STANDARD In materials handling.
FOR HEAVY DUTY LOADS POWER Plastic Pallets
FOR EXTRA HEAVY DUTY LOADS LOADMASTER Plastic Pallets
SUITABLE FOR USE WITH FORKLIFTS & MOST HAND PALLET TRUCKS
Sizes:
1.0 x 1.2 x 0.145 meter 1.0 x 1.2 x 0.180 meter
1.0 x 1.2 x 0.160 meter 1.2 x 1.2 x 0.180 meter
From 1000 to 6000 kgs load capacities
For a complete fax copy of all pallet models, please call LIANA TRADING CORPORATION (Authorized Dealer) Tel: 241-6701 to 04.

WaterCare Top Distributor for 2001 & 2002 South-East Asia Pentair AMETEK
Water Refilling Equipment Package
"THE TRUSTED NAME IN THE WATER BUSINESS FOR MORE THAN TEN (10) YEARS....."
NOW AVAILABLE AT AFFORDABLE PRICE!!!
8 UNITS / 16 STAGES (all in complete package)
ALSO AVAILABLE: 8 UNITS / 16 STAGES (all in complete package)
HEAD OFFICE: WATERCARE MARKETING (PHILIPPINES) 3933 L. Roces Cor. Santol St., Sampaloc, Manila, Philippines 1008 Tel. # : (632) 716-6998 • 716-0880 Fax # : (632) 716-0903 E-mail:watrcare@ph.inter.net
ALSO AVAILABLE AT: • SM Megamall, 5/F Bldg. A Tel. # 633-2510/20 • SM City Fairview, LGF Tel # 417-6622/418-6024 • SM Southmall, UGF Tel. # 806-9393 • SM City Cebu, LGF Tel. # (032) 233-0252 • MC Home Ortigas Tel. # 638-5201 • MC Home Fort Bonifacio Tel. # 815-4270
AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR & IMPORTER OF: Pentair Water Treatment Plymouth Product (Ametek) • Nimbus Water System (Reverse Osmosis) Badger Meter Inc. • R-Can UV Sterilight • Rusco, Inc. • Penta-pure Resin
A Member of Water Quality
NO FRANCHISE FEE / NO ROYALTY FEE
"The one stop shop for all your Water Treatment Needs"
"FREE SEMINAR ON WATER REFILLING BUSINESS" February 12 & 26, 2005
FOR RESERVATION, CONTACT RUTH @ 716-6998

OXYGEN THERAPY SET Your complete indoor & outdoor first aid kit
WITH OXYGEN REGULATOR NASAL CANNULA ADULT MASK MEDICAL OXYGEN TANK (15lbs CAP) COMPLETE WITH TROLLEY — MOBILE TYPE
WITH OXYGEN REGULATOR, NASAL CANNULA MEDICAL OXYGEN TANK, (5lbs CAP) AND 3-IN-1 STROLLER BAG — PORTABLE TYPE
save a LIFE!
Exclusively Distributed by: medical center trading corporation
Pasig City (02) 631-1715 | Manila City (02) 711-8374 | Cebu City (032) 254-2367 | Davao City (082) 222-4404
Iloilo City (033) 320-1413 | Lipa City (043) 757-2051 | Pampanga (045) 961-7892 | Pangasinan (075) 568-7390
Available in all mercury drug Stores Nationwide

Attention: Hotels and Condominiums
KALDEWEI
Europe's No. 1 manufacturer of steel pressed bathtubs is pleased to announce Dexterton as its sole agent for its products in the Philippines.
STEEL 2.3mm ENAMEL
Available Size:
150 x 70 cm P 6,150.00
160 x 70 cm P 6,150.00
170 x 70 cm P 6,150.00
Optional bathtub legs P 1,200.00
Other sizes are also available by special order.
DEXTERTON Dexterton Corporation
Address: 157 Sgt. E. Rivera St., Quezon City Tel: 362-1111, 361-6008 Fax No: 302-0524 email: info@dexterton.com website: www.dexterton.com

CARL
At work in the office
The Most Quiet and the Smallest Paper Shredder
DS-4000 OFFICE SHREDDER
DS-3000 PERSONAL SHREDDER
• Completely & permanently shreds your most valuable info
• Ideal for home & office use
• Quickly & quietly shreds large volume of important documents in high-security cross-cut design
• Automatically senses when bin is full
• Automatically stops the motor if temperature exceeds preset level
• Automatically reverses the cutting direction if too much paper is inserted
FOR MORE INFORMATIONS CALL.
Times TRADING CO., INC. SINCE 1946
523-525 Q. PAREDES ST. BINONDO, MANILA
TEL.: 242-5741 TO 50 (TRUNKLINE)
E-MAIL: times@pldtdsl.net
AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING STATIONARIES BOOKSTORES and DEPARTMENT STORES NATIONWIDE.

Philippine Exclusive Distributor:
COSMOS BAZAR, INC.
571 Q. PAREDES ST., BINONDO, MANILA
P.O. BOX 1601 Tels.: 243-6912 to 14 Fax:242-5671
PILOT CORPORATION
Tokyo Japan

i ♥ the way you say my name

i ♥ thinking of you when i'm far away

i ♥ surprising you with my thoughts

i ♥ calling out to you any time of day

i ♥ greeting you with sweet nothings

i ♥ passing on to you what you need

i ♥ sending you cute, little gifts

i ♥ that you're always within reach

I LOVE

SMART

Simply Amazing!

ISSN 0116-2642 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Vol. 20 No. 68

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net

OPINION

Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

•100% soy ink•

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
Editor in Chief LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Associate Editor ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
Associate Editor for Readership ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
News Editor ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR. • *Chief, News Day Desk* NILO B. PAUROM
Opinion Editor JORGE V. ARUTA
National Editor PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
City Editor GERRY LIRIO
Senior Desk Editor JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR.
Editorial Consultant AMANDO DORONILA
Chief Photographer ERNIE U. SARMIENTO
Art & Design Director LYNETT A. VILLARIBA

Board Chairman MARIXI R. PRIETO
President ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing RENATO R. REINOSO
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services DAVID O. VALDES
VP for Advertising FELIPE R. OLARTE
AVP for Circulation GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

No. 2

A DAY after the Bureau of Customs celebrated its 103rd anniversary with a rare presidential visit, the Office of the Ombudsman marked the occasion with a more appropriate rite of passage: It suspended the agency's second highest-ranking official.

Deputy Customs Commissioner Reynaldo S. Nicolas was placed on preventive suspension for six months after two of his relatives and one of his neighbors confirmed reports of his ill-gotten wealth. They offered evidence that Nicolas, a bar topnotcher in 1983, had used "dummies" to hide his considerable assets.

EDITORIAL

Nicolas has vigorously protested his innocence, telling the INQUIRER he was merely a victim of intrigue by some of the country's biggest smugglers. "Let me make myself clear that the suspension will not weaken my resolve to go after all these big-time smugglers in the bureau."

But the suspension order signed by Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo seems to be based on rock-solid evidence. His sister-in-law and a nephew of his wife submitted separate affidavits attesting to Nicolas' wealth and accused the Customs official of forcing his mother-in-law, Gloria F. Lorenzo, to front as the owner of a piece of real estate in posh Ayala Alabang Village in Muntinlupa City.

More damning still, Ameriza Lim, his neighbor on Acacia Drive, also in Ayala Alabang, admitted in another sworn statement that she had agreed to accept the ownership of the Acacia Drive property some time ago when Nicolas' wife, Yolanda, "tearfully approached" her to make the request. At that time, Nicolas and other government officials were feeling the heat of the Arroyo administration's lifestyle check.

If the Acacia Drive property is indeed hers, Lim said, she would sell it and donate the proceeds to the victims of last year's floods and mudslides.

The Ombudsman's investigators also found that Nicolas owned a total of 11 vehicles worth P17.4 million. All told, Nicolas was found to have total assets amounting to P48.92 million, accumulated on a monthly salary of not more than P35,000. (Neither he nor his wife declared any business interests in his Statement of Assets and Liabilities.) He now faces charges of "dishonesty, grave misconduct, and conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the service."

If Nicolas is indeed the nemesis of "big-time smugglers," we trust that he will use the next six months to offer solid proof not only of his innocence but also of the smuggling that is said to bedevil the agency. His work is cut out for him.

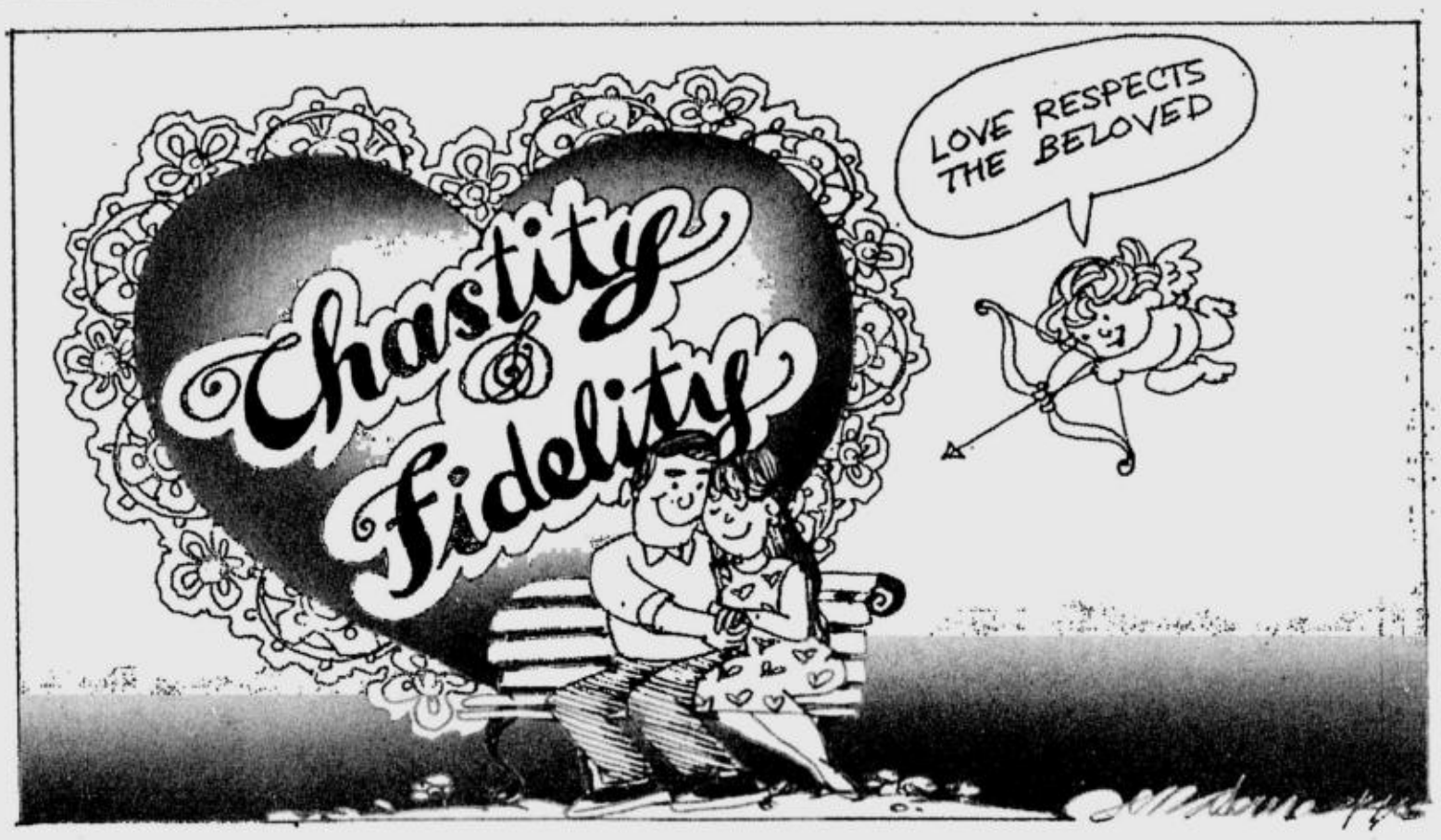
But already there are valuable lessons to learn from his suspension.

First, the lifestyle check is truly a potent weapon in the war on corruption. Again, we note that it can be abused (we shudder to think what would have happened if the weapon had been in use during the term of the previous Ombudsman) or misused (say, as a headline-hogging substitute for the hard, slogging work of effective litigation). But in combination with other weapons in the anti-corruption arsenal, it makes for an effective first salvo.

Second, citizen participation remains the essential element in the anti-corruption mix. We will never rid ourselves of the culture of corruption that corrodes our way of life if we denounce the guilty we do not know but continue to make excuses for the guilty we are close to. Indeed, and in too many cases, we know the unflattering (or, in another context, the glamorous) details of a friend or a relative's corruption better than any investigator. If we have not even thought of cooperating in the anti-corruption campaign, should we be surprised that corruption continues to thrive?

Third, an effective anti-corruption campaign recognizes that the fruits of justice may be plucked even with unclean hands. It is important to remember that Lim agreed to serve as Nicolas' dummy—perhaps, out of sheer neighborliness—but only turned against him when a business deal with him turned sour. It is the responsibility of officials, such as the Ombudsman, to forge a reputation that will attract those with lesser culpability to testify against those with more. Naturally, the Ombudsman and like officials must learn to weigh the testimony, separating the grain of evidence from the chaff of motive.

Despite its record collection, the Bureau of Customs continues to suffer from pervasive corruption. Shock therapy may be the answer. If it is, suspending the agency's Deputy Commissioner, on the basis of solid evidence, is the right first dose.



No such thing as Valentine's Day bonus in budget

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

FILIPINOS are in near-rebellion over the increases in taxes and government fees, most particularly, in the value-added tax. The government's excuse for the increase is the budget deficit and the foreign debt. The government needs funds to pay for them. Where else to source them but from the taxpayers?

But at the same time that the Arroyo government is squeezing the taxpayers, it throws away P3.6 billion in a so-called Valentine's Day bonus to the 1.2 million government employees. How much of hard-earned money will each worker have to part to fund the P3.6 billion?

The unkindest cut of all is that the money is going to a particularly ungrateful bunch of leeches. Instead of being grateful for the bonus (which private employees will not get), the government employees derided the bonus because it was "too small." President Macapagal-Arroyo had initially announced that the government can afford to give only a P1,000 bonus for each state employee. The beneficiaries made fun of it. And the President, who suffers from an acute feeling of being unloved and is deathly afraid of being unpopular, immediately raised the amount to P3,000 apiece. Not unlike a sugar daddy eager to please his mistress. The President is buying popularity with bribes. But that's still not good enough to the leeches. They want P5,000 each because that's what they received last year.

Last year we didn't have the fiscal crisis. This year we are scraping the bottom of the barrel. This year, the salaries in many government offices are delayed, contractors are not getting paid, infrastructure projects have been halted—because of lack of funds. This year, the President is pushing Congress to pass a number of tax measures to squeeze more money out of the people. But the government employees, those with cushy jobs, security of tenure, fat allowances and sidelines, want more, more, more—not unlike the giant squeezing the goose for more golden eggs until it died.

Malacañang says the bonus will come from the "savings" of government offices. If they have savings, that can only mean that their appropriations were more than enough and that Congress should now reduce their budget to cut costs and give the taxpayers a break. And the savings should go back to the Treasury, instead of being spent. It is no secret that the departments bloat their budgets so that when Congress cuts them, more than enough would be left. It is also no secret that when the fiscal year draws to an end, state offices spend their remaining budgets on such useless and wasteful expenses as seminars in faraway places so that Congress will not cut their proposed budgets for the next year.

I would like to know where the President got the authority to spend P3.6 billion for a Valentine's Day bonus. The President and the government cannot spend any money unless it is appropriated by Congress. I combed last year's General Appropriations Act and I could not find any allotment for a "Valentine's Day bonus." We, the taxpayers, cannot let this pass unchallenged. Today it is a Valentine's Day bonus, tomorrow it could be an All Saints' Day bonus, or a Holy Week bonus, or even a birthday bonus for each and every state employee. The possibilities are endless—for as long as congressmen have the imagination to invent names for the appropriations, in the same way that they have invented various names for the pork barrel.

Already, the President is brazen enough to spend government funds not authorized by congressional appropriation. The Constitution is clear: "No money shall be paid out of the Treasury except in pursuance of an appropriation by law" [Article VI, Section 29(1)]. But there is no appropriation for a Valentine's Day bonus.

This is a culpable violation of the Constitution (Article XI, Section 2), for which the President can be impeached.

But, of course, President Macapagal-Arroyo is used to violating the Constitution and not being made to account for it. Sen. Nene Pimentel Jr. enumerated some of these in his speech before the Philconsa last Feb. 8, Constitution Day, for which reason he called for her impeachment.

"During the last presidential election," Pimentel said, "the President illegally used the trust funds raised through the Road Users' Tax and of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) for her own purposes. P1.4 billion of the Road Users' Tax was transferred to fund her partisan political project Kalsada Natin, Alagaan Natin." She also transferred P4 billion of OWWA funds to PhilHealth supposedly "to enable the poor to have access to public health services."

"While the objectives might have been good, it was still wrong for the President to have done so," Pimentel said, considering that the OWWA and Road Users' funds are trust funds that cannot be used for any purpose other than that specified in the law that created them.

Worse, the obvious reason for these illegal disbursements was to buy votes.

Pimentel also charged the President with illegally authorizing the payment—without congressional authority—of some $68 million, or P3.762 billion, for the purchase of six search-and-rescue vessels. Now she is going to violate the Constitution again with the Valentine's Day bonus.

* * *

Don't forget, make your valentine happy tonight by taking her to the after-dinner concert at the Front Page on T.M. Kalaw Street, in the Tourist Belt in Manila. Nonoy Zuñiga, Eugene Villaluz, Girl Valencia, Marri Nallos, and Juan Rodrigo, plus other surprise guests, will serenade you with love songs.

Best of all, admission is free, especially for journalists and Samahang Plaridel members.

Six

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

"ROMEO and Juliet" remains possibly the most romantic love story ever, and has deservedly survived war and famine through the ages to gain that reputation. Franco Zeffirelli did right to cast the teenagers Leonard Whiting and Olivia Hussey in his version—possibly the best one, which too deservedly has earned its fame—of the star-crossed lovers. It takes youth, or truly great love, or both, to rise, or plunge, to those levels or selflessness or recklessness, defying adversity, opposition and death itself. It takes youth, or truly great love, or both, to exhibit such joy and exuberance, such physical immediacy and spiritual distance at the same time, while in the throes of that euphoria or affliction.

Well, it takes youth, or truly great love, or both, to fall in love at first sight, and surrender to it with such unyielding absoluteness. You get to be a little older, you get to sympathize (and empathize) with the worldlier Mercutio, or even the more cynical Athos in Alexandre Dumas' "The Three Musketeers," and look at the mating rituals of the birds and the bees with more amusement than awe.

But I leave you to discover the book and movie, or better still the stage presentation, at your leisure. Though you might want to check out, too, the books mentioned below. I don't know that they are the best books written about love, I do know they have made the strongest impression on me in that respect.

Foremost is Gabriel Garcia Marquez's "Love in the Time of Cholera." It's the one book that has been compared to his incomparable "One Hundred Years of Solitude." It's just as lyrical and far more romantic. I can say with much assurance, don't wait for the movie. The producers won't make it, this isn't the sort of thing that makes for a good one. Look what happened to "Catch-22." The movie, made by Mike Nichols, was horrible, though it starred Alan Arkin, one of my favorite actors, as Yossarian. Why anyone would think to turn Joseph Heller's magnificent anti-novel into a movie, well, there's a thin line between lunacy and genius. The book was genius, the movie was lunacy.

But I digress. In "Love in the Time of Cholera" (as far as I can recall, I read it years ago), a young man who fancies himself a poet falls in love with the daughter of a fairly rich man, woos her, goes to great lengths to do things for her. And just as she is on the verge of requiting his love, she changes her mind. And marries a man of more reasonable means. Devastated but resolute, young man vows to have her if he was to wait forever to do it. He does wait, bedding in the interim women left and right, but they do not count, he remains chaste in his mind, with his single-minded pursuit of—or waiting for—his one great love.

I won't reveal whether he gets her in the end. I just want to draw the reader's attention to the part where the young man falls in love for the first time. He is stricken badly, and the symptoms he exhibits are not unlike those of cholera. He is feverish and delusional, unable to sleep, unable to eat, retching and vomiting all the time. It is all his devoted mother can do to see him through his delirium tremens. It takes genius to write about this with poetry and humor at the same time. Marquez does so, in style.

"The Unbearable Lightness of Being" is a "bizarre love triangle" to use the title of a song that became popular in the '90s. Milan Kundera I really like. I can understand his ironic sensibility, his compassion and sarcasm, his love-hate relationship with the socialist utopia.

The triangle consists of Tereza, who comes from a world where everything seems trivial and who longs for depth and seriousness; Sabina, the painter, who comes from the plodding weight of political activism and longs for the soaring airiness of art; and Tomas, the doctor, who returns to Prague after the Russian invasion, longing to do something for his country and ends up being "remolded" into a cleaner of glass windows. The novel, of course, explores their relationships, in particular, as the above suggests, the many facets of weight and lightness, or indeed their paradoxical meanings or modes of being. Weight can often be very light, and lightness can often be very heavy.

Typically Kundera, we see the couple Tomas and Tereza (Sabina is the sometime mistress), toward the end of the book, keeping watch over their dying dog. How is that for a truly ironic, and dazzling, play at the many shades of lightness and heaviness?

This one you don't have to wait for the movie, it's been made—as far back as 1988. And quite a good one it is, too. Like all great movies from great books, this one doesn't rely faithfully on the original but goes on to create its own world while retaining the original's spirit and energy. It demands to be judged by its own terms and not by literary ones. The movie stars Daniel Day-Lewis, Juliette Binoche, and Lena Olin, and was directed by Philip Kaufman.

Olin is one hell of a sexy Sabina in this movie, which adds all sorts of reverberations to the antimonies physical-spiritual, trivial-substantial, light-heavy. Lightness can often truly crush you with its unbearable-ness. You want the gripping visuals and the stunning immediacy, watch the movie. You want the suppleness of language and the even more suppleness of thought, read the book. You can't lose either way. You win double if you do both.

Arundathi Roy is both enviable and unenviable. She it is who wrote "The God of Small Things," a brilliant first novel, as awe-inspiring a debut as "Catch-22." But she may well end up having the same problem as Heller, who was unable to write a second novel until well after a decade. How the hell do you top a work of genius?

But I leave that for tomorrow.

(To be concluded)

Coping with tragedy

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

ON THIS traditional day of hearts, perhaps it's fitting to recall, not the love of sweethearts but the love of parents learning to cope with the loss of a child. It's the story of how Speaker Jose de Venecia and his wife Gina have struggled to cope with the loss of their 16-year-old daughter KC--a pain compounded by the horrible way she suffered and died in the Dec. 16 fire that gutted their home, and their helplessness in preventing it. How the De Venecias are picking up their lives is an inspiring story for this day of hearts, and for others visited by tragedy.

I looked them up at their condominium just before they left for Seoul for speaking engagements for the Speaker. On the outside both seemed back to normal; the tautness in Gina's face was gone and she had put on some weight again. JDV looked a bit wan and was being treated for a respiratory ailment. But I realized soon enough that their big problem is coping.

Nearly two months after that tragedy, Gina can already go through KC's photos, but she still cannot go to the crypt in Sanctuario de San Antonio where KC's ashes were interred. She only went to the burned mansion two days after the tragedy, very quickly, to see if anything there needed to be retrieved. She hasn't been there since.

The De Venecias are coping with their grief in their respective way. KC is JDV's seventh child and he adored her. The feeling was mutual. KC once told her best friend Sam that her dad was "awesome" and the person she loved most. Since the tragedy, JDV has kept himself busy, which may be his therapy; but he admitted that the pain of KC's loss hits him at various times and "twice *nagparamdam si KC sa akin*; I smelled smoke." He admitted that in the first few weeks "I would bang my head against the wall as the thought kept swirling that if I had gone home an hour earlier that night, maybe I could have saved my child" (he was presiding over marathon debates in the House). The horrible inferno scene would replay in his mind over and over—how he and son Joey tried to go up and a huge beam fell just an inch before them; he tried a second and third time to go up with Mayor Jojo Binay, but the smoke stifled them.

Gina encourages Joe to confront his grief: "You cannot run away from grief; you have to process it in your heart." But in the early weeks it was Joe who worried as his wife talked about wanting to join her daughter, which is a normal reaction of parents. "KC was our little Gina. In fact, she called KC Juniorita,'" mused Joe.

Joe buried himself in his work, and looked for a constructive way to prevent the tragedy for other people. He wangled from Congress P35 million for modern fire-fighting equipment for various cities and towns. A foundation they set up for KC will finance a three-bed unit in the Philippine General Hospital for burn patients as a starting project; it will also help struggling artists and scientists.

Gina has her own terrible replay: how she shouldn't have taken the cook's assertion at face value that KC had sought permission from her mom to go out that night.

The De Venecias carried out their plan to travel to Spain and Lourdes after Christmas, set even when KC was still alive. But while there, Gina was caught up, like the rest of the world, in the tsunami drama; then she realized that out there were many thousands of families whose loss was far greater than hers.

The support systems carried them through. On Christmas Day, the ninth day after KC's death, Cory Aquino came to their Makati hotel with a present: a booklet of passages from the Bible -- from Job, Isaiah, Joel, Sirach, Kings, Peter, Ruth and Judith -- that provide solace from grief and strength for the grieving. Cory selected the passages and copied them by hand. Gina's favorite passage is from 1 Peter, 4: 12-13: "My dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful test you are suffering, as though something unusual were happening to you. Rather, be glad that you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may be full of joy when his glory is revealed." The couple treasures it dearly.

Gina has consulted several people on how KC is. Psychic Jaime Licauco told her she is now "in the upper realm," which was echoed by a Buddhist monk in Bangkok. Cory took Gina to the Pink Sisters for a three-hour session, and by now we all know about the "miracle of the shoes," as Joe calls it. Three rosaries were found in KC's room, including a blue one that she clutched as she died. Gina brought them to the sisters who cleaned them, and Prioress Hermenegildes told her family to pray with the blue rosary. Now the De Venecias pray with it every day for KC's repose and their own peace. Fr. Sonny Ramirez advised Gina to go on a month-long retreat, but she feels she's not ready yet; instead, she's going on a one-day retreat with the Good Shepherd Sisters, for starters.

An important pillar in her healing is her regular session with psychiatrist Dr. Honey Carandang, who advised her to nurture herself back to health, including avoiding people she resents. Carandang gave her a book, "When The Bough Breaks," by Dr. Judith Bernstein, a case study of parents who have lost a child. Able to relate to the circumstances in the book, Gina took it to Korea, so Joe can read it. She also began writing a daily journal of her voyage through grief.

She has gone back to her duties with the group of congressional spouses that she heads, planning fundraising for Haven projects. Last week, she stood as *ninang* in a wedding, except that at one point, bride Kirsten Lareza, who looked a little bit like KC, called the groom "my awesome husband," reminding Gina that KC had called Joe her "awesome" father; afterwards, she slipped out of the church, feeling bad that she'd never get to see KC's wedding.

'Persona non grata' for heritage destroyer

KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO

Antonio J. Montalvan II

ANOTHER SOS is being sent, not from Baclayon, Bohol (which is showing us the way), but from Cagayan de Oro City. And much like an epilogue to the long-drawn saga of the destruction of the prehistoric Huluga archaeological site, the perpetrator in this instance is still its city mayor, Vicente Y. Emano. That is the problem with mayors who run their turfs like principalities and potentates. Listening to public outcry is not among their fortes. And Emano has not learned his lesson despite losing the administrative case filed against him by the Heritage Conservation Advocates on the Huluga debacle, from which I coined the term "cultural terrorism."

Emano's target for his cultural terrorism this time is the city hall of Cagayan de Oro, which he plans to sell, together with two other city government properties, to generate a whopping return of P800 million that, he said, he will use to build a new government center for the city. A fine plan, indeed, that promises to promote further growth for this burgeoning northern Mindanao metropolis. But that is as far as we can tell on the surface—because the mayor's financial management is obscure (no statement of income and expenses is publicly available), and his style of urban management is "primitive" (the city has degenerated, teeming with shanty communities, sidewalk vendors and rolling coffins disguised as public transport).

The planned sale and transfer raise a lot of eyebrows.

Built in 1940, the city hall is among Cagayan de Oro's remaining pre-war architecture. And it stands where the Aguinaldo Revolutionary Government was first proclaimed—on Jan. 10, 1899—in Mindanao.

Casa Real was the seat of the Spanish provincial government. It had become a symbol of Spanish repression in Cagayan. It is said that a cruel Spanish governor at one time whipped "Indios" right at the stairs of the mansion.

On proclamation day, the people of Cagayan occupied it with much rejoicing—a two-day fanfare, replete with parade, speeches, music and cannon booms—thus marking the end of the Spanish colonial regime that had ruled Misamis repressively and, at the same time, welcoming the first Filipino government in the island. Documents in microfilms relating to the "Fiesta Nacional" can now be viewed publicly in the National Archives.

Casa Real was later demolished—some time between 1910 and 1930. When Cagayan built a new town hall on the same site, there was another jubilant celebration, attended no less by President Manuel L. Quezon himself.

Citizen Cory Aquino added history to the same building by gracing with her presence the ceremonies formally renaming it as the Ninoy Aquino Hall of Justice, just after his assassination in 1983. I was a witness to that event.

It is thus understandable that the people of Cagayan de Oro would hold the site sacred. To ensure that future generations will forever remember and cherish the Cagayan people's love for freedom, a historical marker was installed on the site in 1999, the year Mindanao marked the centennial of the proclamation.

Emano, his rabid lapdogs and the pseudo-historians who cling to him for bread and butter, sneer at this "piece of history." They arrogantly claim that the marker is not backed up by records in the National Historical Institute. This may be true. But the NHI is not the sole arbiter of history in our land; there are other existing laws that recognize local historical bodies.

About three weeks ago, the city council of Cagayan de Oro railroaded an ordinance giving full authority to Emano to underwrite all the financial transactions pertaining to the sale of this historical heritage. But the ordinance strangely seems to be a product of "computer plagiarism." The text of an executive order that Emano had signed earlier was simply lifted—as in cut-and-paste—to the new city ordinance.

This could only mean that the ordinance was hastily ordered, dictated by Emano verbatim, and accepted by his underlings without batting their eyelashes, and naturally passed without floor deliberations by Emano's rubber stamp, the city council. It was only after more than seven days from the passage of the ordinance that the council conducted a public consultation on the sale. But by then, it was moot and academic as the measure had already been enacted into an ordinance. There are no plans to ensure that the building will not suffer demolition.

With arrogance. This is how Emano governs this now forlorn city which is, indeed, very unfortunate to have as mayor a man who has no love at all for the past of its people.

When will we see the day that professional politicians whose three terms have expired will be banned from running in voting districts where they have no birthright, but to which they transfer residence simply to perpetuate their political careers?

Emano is not a native of Cagayan de Oro. Being a chartered city, the city's residents do not vote for the provincial candidates of Misamis Oriental. Emano served as the province's governor, following a stint as mayor of his hometown Tagoloan. He has, therefore, no ties to Cagayan de Oro City. He is there only for political expedience and power. No wonder, heritage is for him only a matter of convenience.

As a native of the city, and in exercise of my birthright, let me now have the privilege to be the first to declare Vicente Y. Emano *persona non grata* to the people of Cagayan de Oro.

* * *

Comments to monta@cu-cdo.edu.ph

The mating ritual

THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III

IT is the best story I've heard in a long time, made all the more delicious because it is true. At a party, a girl recounted to me how one of her boy friends asked her to go out with him. It was at a wake. He came up to her and asked her if they could talk. She said, yes, why not. So he took her to a pew near the front of the chapel, where few people stay during the wake, and began to whisper sweet nothings into her ear. He proclaimed his undying love. She replied that she'd have to think about it—she wasn't sure if she felt the same way.

Then came the clincher.

"Why," she asked him, "did you decide to propose to me here, in a wake, of all places?"

The man's eyes brightened. He looked at her intently and proceeded to explain.

"Look," he said, "at how romantic this place is. There are lots of candles. And lots of flowers. It's quiet. It's peaceful. It's nice and cold." And as if these weren't enough, he pointed to the coffin of the deceased and said, "and look, we even have a witness."

That, obviously, was that—as far as the courtship was concerned.

Then there is the story of a gay couple I know who plan to get married, despite the disapproval of both the concerned guys' parents. They are partners in a small company and happen to have a client who, as one of the grooms-to-be described him, was "tall, dark and the most masculine person imaginable."

One evening, after a long meeting, the client invited one of the partners to dinner. The two men sat at the table twiddling their forks, until the client broke the ice.

"*O, pare*, (hey pal) so your partnership is going well, huh?" asked the client.

"Well, yes, it is," responded the groom-to-be.

"I see. Well, *pare*, um... so the two of you are ům... together *ba* (Well, pal, um... you're together, aren't you)?"

"Well, yes we are," replied the groom-to-be, who decided to test his client's reactions by adding, "in fact, we're planning to get married."

"*Ganun ba, tsong* (Is that so, buddy)?" replied the client, matter-of-factly.

"Yes."

All of a sudden, an incredible transformation took place. The client took a long, hard look at his dinner companion, put his hands on his chest, and suddenly shrieked, "*Aaay!* I'm melting!"

Shock and consternation gave way to panic when the groom-to-be found himself being hugged by the client whose *macho basso profundo* gave way to an escalating falsetto: "*Ay! Bakla! Ay! Bakla ka pala! Naku bakla, sister pala kita* (Oh! You're gay! Oh! you're my sister)!" More hugs.

The client then proceeded to recount his salad days in college. "*Alam mo* (You know)," the client breathlessly told his dinner companion (who later said he did not want to know these things), "when I was in college I was...(accompanied with suitable large-arm gestures) 'Miss Colombia!'"

The groom-to-be promptly recounted the shocking transformation to his future partner when he got home, and ever since both get nervous when they're around their client.

Everyone, it seems, has all sorts of courtship stories to relate. There was the girl who caught her date sniffing his armpit, at which point he looked over his arm, pointed his index finger at her, and said, "bang, bang!"

There was another girl of infinite taste and refinement who found herself at a loss for words when the guy courting her presented her with a plastic, glow-in-the-dark Santo Niño in a seashell, and made her pledge that she'd use it as her night light forever.

And there was the girl invited, at long last, to meet the family of her boyfriend. She was a nervous wreck. Halfway through dinner, she had the unbearable urge to pee. But she wanted to make a good impression and so asked the mother of her boyfriend, most politely, "May I use the powder room?"

"Why certainly," graciously responded the mother of her boyfriend. "It's over there."

The poor girl found herself in a real powder room, complete with vanity mirror, large sink and tons of expensive soaps and frilly hand towels. But no commode.

Desperate, and at her wits' ends, she resorted to extreme measures: she hoisted herself on to the sink in order to pee.

But the sink was slick and she slipped off; the startled family heard a shriek and a loud thump, and then groaning. The concerned boyfriend knocked on the door and heard no response. He broke down the door, and found his girlfriend on the floor, panty around her knees, unconscious. No one has told me what happened to the poor couple after that.

That's the mating game for you. I hope, at least, these true stories haven't been as corny as this one, circa 1948, from an old magazine article:

"During the early days after liberation, a GI acquaintance of ours used to drop in at our house to chat. He was keenly interested in learning the dialect, but his queer way of pronouncing words with a strong Southern accent proved a stumbling block to his efforts. Once he amazed us by saying:

"'Tomorruh, if I've nuthin' else tuh do, I'm goin' tuh make a baby.'

"'What?' the girls chorused.

"'Yeah,' he replied. 'Got a couple of girl friends there, you know. Yes, suh, a mighty quiet place—Make-a-baby, Pam-pan-guh.'

"The poor fellow really meant he was going to Macabebe, Pampanga. Of course, the innocent GI did not mean it as a pun, but thereafter we would retell it as a genuine gem." Bang-bang!

* * *

Comments welcome at www.quezon.ph

The Kyoto Protocol

COMMENTARY

Roberto C. Yap, S.J., Ph.D.
Institute on Church and Social Issues

ON THE 16th of February 2005, celebrations will be held all over the world to mark the start of the enforcement of the Kyoto Protocol—meaning, 35 industrialized countries and the European Community are legally bound to reduce their combined emissions of greenhouse gases in the period 2008-2012 to below 1990 levels. The day is the beginning of a new era characterized by the global cooperation to reduce the risk of climate change.

The celebrations will be highlighted by a "Kyoto Relay of Messages," with dignitaries exchanging messages via a video hook-up. Messages will be delivered by the United Nations secretary general, the president of the European Commission, and the ministers of the environment from Argentina, Canada, China, Germany, Japan, Micronesia and the United Kingdom.

There will be celebratory toasts at the London Climate Change Services. In India, a workshop "Clear Skies India" will be conducted, while Morocco is organizing a nationwide TV broadcast and seminar in Casablanca, Morocco. And a "Commemorative Symposium" will be held at the Kyoto International Conference Hall where the Protocol was originally adopted on Dec. 11, 1997.

Here in Manila, there will be at least three events marking the important day: a breakfast meeting at the Asian Development Bank; "Stop the Warming," a media briefing on climate change and the Kyoto Protocol at noon, hosted by klima Climate Change Center of the Manila Observatory, and World Wide Fund for Nature; and a multi-stakeholder consultation on the proposed process for approving climate-friendly projects.

The consultation will be convened in the morning by klima, on behalf of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, under the auspices of the Royal Netherlands Embassy and the United Nations Development Program.

The Kyoto pact is the first-ever international environmental agreement that requires cuts in emissions linked to global warming. The Protocol sets binding restrictions on the emission of heat-trapping gases that unavoidably come with the demands of modern living, like driving a car and operating a power plant. The main source of the dominant gas, carbon dioxide, is fossil fuels such as coal, diesel and oil.

While the Kyoto Protocol does not have emission reduction targets for developing countries, it opens up new avenues for them to develop and implement climate-friendly projects with sustainable development benefits.

For example, the Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) encourages investments in developing countries for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote sustainable development. By hosting emission reduction projects, developing countries can generate emission reduction credits. These credits can be sold to the industrialized countries to help them meet their Kyoto commitments. In other words, industrialized countries can invest money in emission reduction projects put up in developing countries in return for emission reduction credits.

Several projects in the Philippines are starting to enter the CDM pipeline. Last Dec. 9, 2004, Northwind Power Development Corp. signed a greenhouse gas emission reduction purchase agreement for its 25-MW wind-farm project in Bangui Bay, Ilocos Norte. The power generated by Northwind will be fed into the grid to service the Ilocos Norte Electric Cooperative. The power generated by wind energy will displace power produced by coal-burning. The project is expected to reduce 356,000 tons of carbon emissions over 10 years. The credits for these emission reductions will be purchased by the Prototype Carbon Fund, which is managed by the World Bank, as trustee for a public/private partnership of six governments and 17 private companies.

The PNOC Exploration Company is presently validating its "Payatas Landfill Gas to Energy Project." The project will establish an installation to recover, destroy and utilize landfill gas (LFG) generated within the Payatas dump in Quezon City. The electricity generated in a 1-MW power plant will be sold to the Luzon grid. Excess LFG will be flared. Methane, the principal LFG, is generated by decaying waste in our dumps. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas because it has 21 times the global warming potential of carbon dioxide. The project is expected to generate an estimated 36,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalents per year for a 10-year period. The sales of these carbon credits will be brokered by Mitsubishi Securities of Japan.

Other CDM projects being aggressively developed include a reforestation project in Tanay which will store or sequester carbon; power-generation projects using renewable biomass sources such as bagasse and rice husks; projects that capture and transform methane from industrial waste water into energy; and composting projects that reduce methane emissions.

As the Kyoto Protocol enters into force, CDM Philippines is definitely in business.

THEY SAID

Violent culture

"When such a culture is allowed to flourish at an official level, it is little wonder that aggrieved local strongmen or political figures turn to hit men to get even with the media."

—International Federation of Journalists representative Gerard Noonan, on the widespread culture of violence in the country that, he said, is often allowed to flourish by government officials

Explosive economy

"It's going to be the overall economic burdens of the people that will cause a massive resentment against the administration that can erupt into an unmanageable fury."

—Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr.

Delaying tactic

"I do not believe in committees. If you want to delay something, you form a committee. Me? I just give a deadline."

—Postmaster General Darlo Rama, on the speedy resolution of 172 administrative cases against corrupt personnel

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Smoke-filled malls

TWO huge commercial establishments in our area, Robinson's East Mall And Sta. Lucia East Mall, are hands-down the noisiest and most smoke-filled malls in the megalopolis.

Despite ordinances and a global trend frowning upon the practice of allowing smokers in air-conditioned and enclosed buildings, smoking mallers go scot-free, to the detriment of children and the annoyance of non-smoking shoppers.

Practically each booth or stall blares out music that can best be described as eardrum-shattering, creating for shoppers a feeling of being besieged in a war zone. This is particularly true in the basement and game rooms.

Then, just outside Robinson's on Marcos Highway, commuters and passersby are traumatized by the barrage of noise from "barkers," peddlers and "what-have-yous" because each one uses a megaphone or microphone to outyell each other. (Maybe the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority can step into this? And while we're at it, shouldn't Chair Bayani Fernando disallow those blaring, novelty jeepney honks? Our foreign guest was recently appalled by the "gunfire" and "wild laughter" emanating from two speeding jeepneys on Marcos Highway.)

For our sanity's sake, please help!

—FERNANDO MARTIRES,
922 Gardenia St.,
Cainta Green Park Village,
Cainta, Rizal

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER LETTERS

DENR undersecretary no coddler of illegal loggers

THIS is in response to the news article titled "Gov accuses top DENR exec of protecting Zambo loggers." (PDI, 1/25/05) It reported that Gov. Rolando Yebes has accused me of protecting loggers for allowing the transport of logs harvested by timber companies in Zamboanga del Norte—from the log pond/cutting area to their veneer/plywood plants.

For the record, I am not protecting any logging company in Zamboanga del Norte or in any part of the country. I also have not violated the Dec. 8, 2004 order of the environment secretary implementing the President's instruction to suspend logging operations nationwide.

My Dec. 23, 2004 memorandum simply granted the request of our regional executive director in Region 9 to allow the transport of the subject harvested logs in order to save them from rotting and salvage their economic value. It was a practical and necessary move within the guidelines of the department. The memorandum, which took into consideration the national and environmental good and welfare, was able to save the government's share of about 35 percent of the logs' value in the form of forest charges and taxes.

It was very unfortunate that the article failed to mention that the environment secretary allowed on Dec. 14, 2004 the transport of logs harvested before the suspension, except in the provinces of Aurora and Quezon.

Yebes' accusations have, therefore, no basis.

—RAMON J.P. PAJE,
undersecretary,
Department of Environment and Natural Resources,
Visayas Avenue,
Diliman, Quezon City

Plug the VAT loopholes first

AN INCREASE in the value added tax would certainly put additional economic burden on Juan de la Cruz, the VAT being an indirect tax. No less than the Supreme Court, in the case of Maceda vs. Macaraeg (GR 88291, 31 May 1991), pointed out that indirect taxes are "paid not as a tax but as an additional part of the cost or of the market price of the commodity."

It is easy to understand why the usually outspoken business community is not raising any issue against the proposed measure. Companies can always shift the tax burden to the ultimate consumers. More than this, they are still entitled to tax credits known as "input taxes" under our VAT system.

On the other hand, wage earners, who constitute the majority of our populace, would have to shoulder the full impact of the tax. Who cares if the prices of commodities go up as a result? After all, at the end of the day, the poor and the middle class will have no choice but to swallow the bitter pill. Businesses will still be in business.

Worse, with government's admission of unchecked administrative lapses in the implementation of the VAT system, unscrupulous companies stand to gain more profits by simply pocketing the tax, thus defeating the very purpose of the tax measure. Anyway, should Congress approve the tax amnesty bill, these companies can still be off the hook all together. Thus, there is sense to the proposal that before imposing the VAT increase, government must first address the loopholes in the present VAT system.

For now, the Senate is the last hope of Juan de la Cruz on this issue.

—JIMMY N. SORIANO,
jns@i-manila.com.ph

Preposterous charges

JANET Yu's letter (PDI, 1/24/05) made unfounded and preposterous charges against Maynilad Water Services Inc. We sought out the writer at her claimed address but found no one by that name living there. Nevertheless, to set the record straight, we address our response to whoever was the real letter writer and the public at large.

On the fictitious claim that we manipulate our billing system by "replacing old meters with new ones that run faster, effectively raising water rates." The replacement of old meters is standard practice among water utilities. Most customers welcome this: With the new meter, the quantity of water consumed is accurately registered, doing away with the "average" reading that a meter reader has to resort to when the meter cannot be read or is out of order. As to the new meter running faster, could it be because the old one was running slow; thus under-registering actual consumption?

On Maynilad's practice of marking high billings with the words "under protest," even if no protest has yet been filed by the customer. This is highly absurd. If we unilaterally mark the bill as "under protest," then we deny ourselves the opportunity to collect the rightful amount indicated in the "protested" bill.

Yu also claims that we replace old meters with tampered ones, and then claim they are broken! This is even more illogical. It is to the interest of Maynilad that we use properly functioning meters so we can do accurate meter readings and bill our customers correctly. It is to the interest of the unscrupulous customer to tamper with his/her meter so as to under-register consumption. As experience shows, some customers resort to nefarious schemes such as posting a vicious dog near the meter, hiding the meter, or burying the meter in cement with only the face showing, to prevent us from properly reading the meter or inspecting the meter for irregularities.

In cases where customers are found to have tampered meters or committed other illegalities, the law authorizes us to impose a penalty and to charge for the water estimated to have been actually consumed but which the tampered meter failed to measure. As an assurance to our customers, penalties and arrears are meted out only after a thorough investigation has been conducted and the illegalities confirmed and validated. In any case, a customer can always have his/her meter tested at our laboratory, under the watchful eyes of a representative from the MWSS Regulatory Office.

Lastly, Yu cites the possibility of an extortion syndicate composed of meter readers and managers of Maynilad. We do not condone this and other criminal activities. We are asking Yu to come out into the open and give us the names of those who she thinks are involved so we can prosecute them to the fullest.

—JESUS MATUBIS JR.,
manager,
corporate affairs and media relations,
Maynilad Water Services Inc.,
Katipunan Road, Balara, QC

'Where's my dog?'

LAST Jan. 31, a case was filed with the Office of the Ombudsman in Quezon City, accusing the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority of "Unnecessary cruelty" (PDI, 2/6/05) in evicting 10 families from their place of abode. As pointed out, the MMDA team not only demolished their homes, it also burned their personal belongings—shoes, clothes, school uniforms, fans, etc.

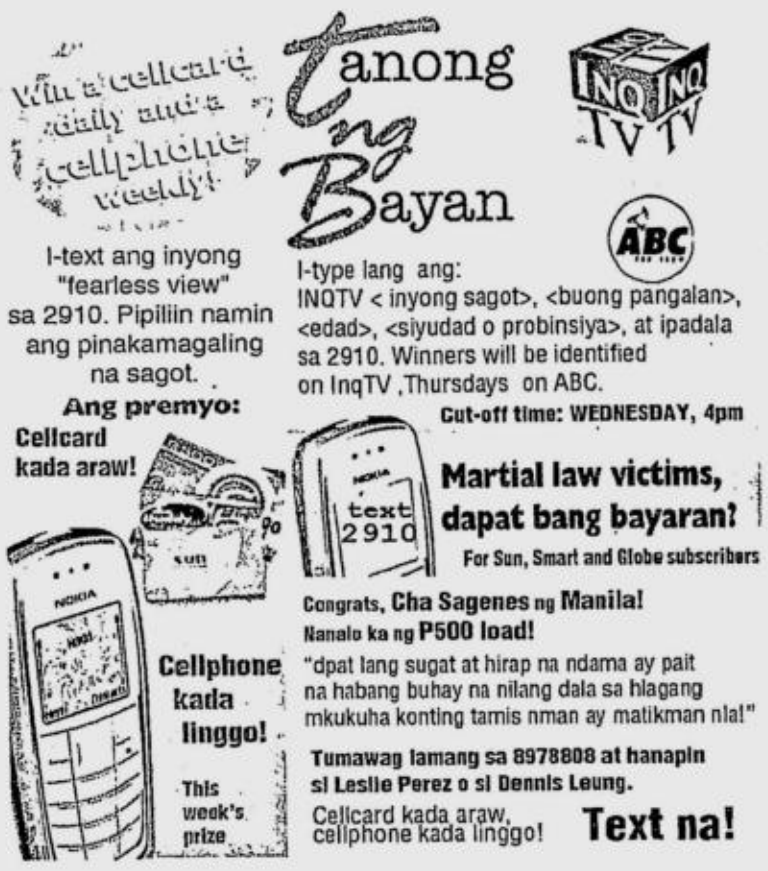
The complainants, members of the evicted families, added "abuse of animal rights," because the MMDA team killed a dog belonging to one of their children and took the body with them in a sack—people believe to be cooked into *pulutan*.

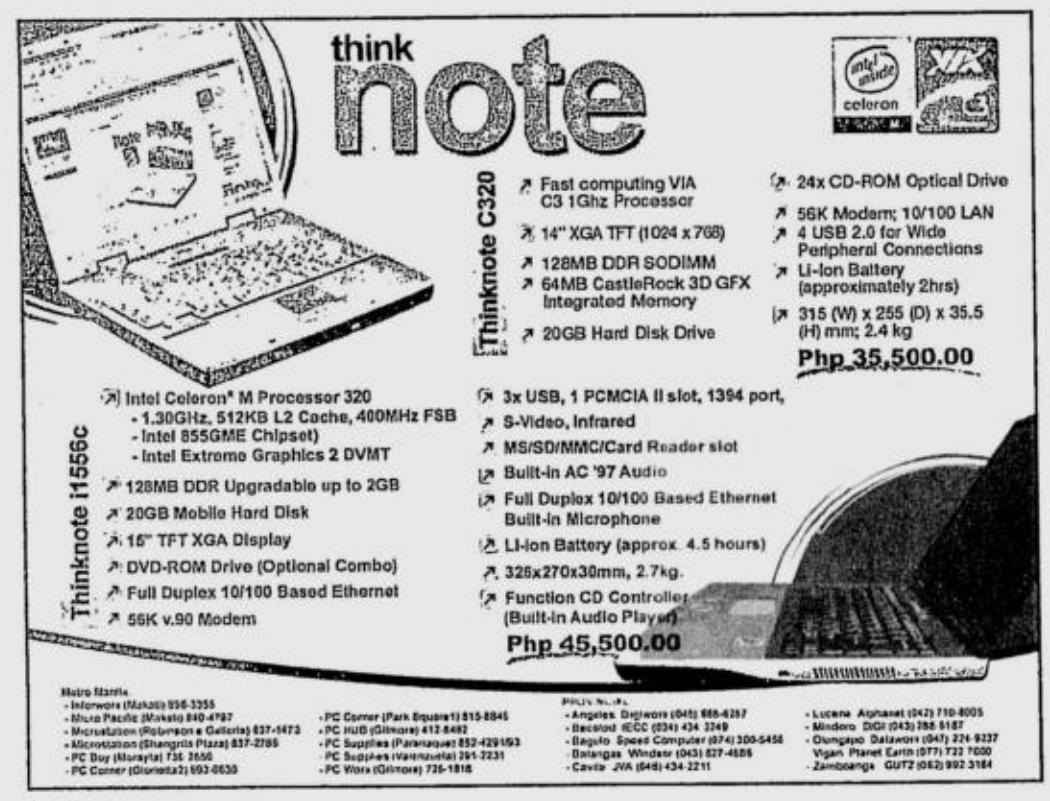
Fifty people demonstrated outside the office while the complaint was being filed. One small boy held a sign, "*MMDA asan na ang aso ko* (MMDA where's my dog)?" (PDI, Photo Caption, 2/1/05)

—DENIS MURPHY,
Urban Poor Associates,
25A Mabuhay St.,
Barangay Central, Quezon City

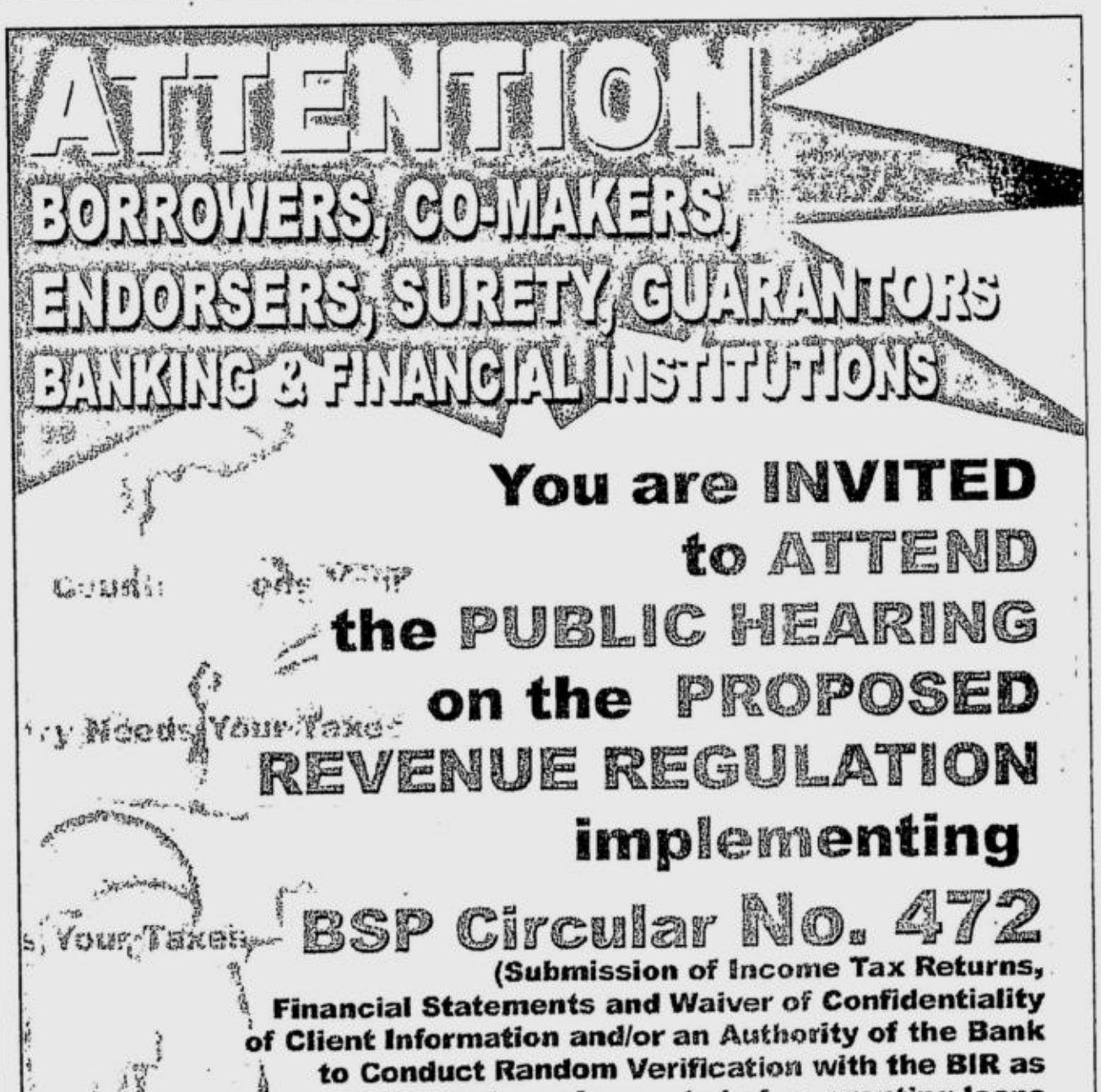
IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.


Wi-Cellcard daily ang Cellphone kada linggo!
Tanong ng Bayan
INQ TV
ABC
I-text ang inyong "fearless view" sa 2910. Pipiliin namin ang pinakamagaling na sagot.
I-type lang ang: INQTV < inyong sagot>, <buong pangalan>, <edad>, <siyudad o probinsiya>, at ipadala sa 2910. Winners will be identified on InqTV ,Thursdays on ABC.
Ang premyo:
Cellcard kada araw!
Cut-off time: WEDNESDAY, 4pm
text 2910
Martial law victims, dapat bang bayaran?
For Sun, Smart and Globe subscribers
Congrats, Cha Sagenes ng Manila!
Nanalo ka ng P500 load!
"dpat lang sugat at hirap na ndama ay pait na habang buhay na nilang dala sa hlagang mkukuha konting tamis nman ay matikman nla!"
Tumawag lamang sa 8978808 at hanapin si Leslie Perez o si Dennis Leung.
Cellcard kada araw, cellphone kada linggo!
Text na!
Cellphone kada linggo!
This week's prize


think note
Thinknote C320
Fast computing VIA C3 1Ghz Processor
14" XGA TFT (1024 x 768)
128MB DDR SODIMM
64MB CastleRock 3D GFX Integrated Memory
20GB Hard Disk Drive
24x CD-ROM Optical Drive
56K Modem; 10/100 LAN
4 USB 2.0 for Wide Peripheral Connections
Li-ion Battery (approximately 2hrs)
315 (W) x 255 (D) x 35.5 (H) mm; 2.4 kg
Php 35,500.00
Thinknote i1556c
Intel Celeron® M Processor 320
- 1.30GHz, 512KB L2 Cache, 400MHz FSB
- Intel 855GME Chipset)
- Intel Extreme Graphics 2 DVMT
128MB DDR Upgradable up to 2GB
20GB Mobile Hard Disk
15" TFT XGA Display
DVD-ROM Drive (Optional Combo)
Full Duplex 10/100 Based Ethernet
56K v.90 Modem
3x USB, 1 PCMCIA II slot, 1394 port,
S-Video, Infrared
MS/SD/MMC/Card Reader slot
Built-in AC '97 Audio
Full Duplex 10/100 Based Ethernet Built-in Microphone
LI-ion Battery (approx. 4.5 hours)
326x270x30mm, 2.7kg.
Function CD Controller (Built-in Audio Player)
Php 45,500.00
Metro Manila
- Infoworx (Makati) 896-3355
- Mura Pacific (Makati) 840-4797
- Microfusion (Robinson's Galleria) 637-1673
- Microfusion (Shangrila Plaza) 637-2785
- PC Boy (Muralla) 735 2656
- PC Corner (Glorietta2) 893-0630
- PC Corner (Park Square1) 815-8845
- PC HUB (Gilmore) 412-8482
- PC Supplies (Parañaque) 852-429153
- PC Supplies (Valenzuela) 291-2231
- PC Wora (Gilmore) 726-1818
- Angeles Digiworx (045) 888-6297
- Bacolod IECC (034) 434 3749
- Baguio Speed Computer (074) 309-5456
- Batangas Windsor (043) 627-4585
- Cavite JVA (046) 434-2211
- Lucena Alphanet (042) 710-8005
- Mindoro DIGI (043) 288 5187
- Olongapo Datavoxx (047) 224-9237
- Vigan Planet Earth (077) 722 7000
- Zamboanga GUTZ (062) 992 3184

Friends share. Wireless friends share more.
Cut the cord with a new Thinknote iSeries 1556p wireless notebook powered by Intel® Centrino™ mobile technology. You can wirelessly email, send instant messages, share digital photos and more from your nearest Wi-Fi hotspot.
think note iSeries 1556p
Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
- Intel® Pentium® M Processor 715
- Intel® 855GME Chipset
- Intel® PROWireless 2200GB (802.11b/g)
256MB DDR Upgradable up to 2GB
20GB Mobile Hard disk
15" TFT XGA Display
DVD-ROM Drive (Optional Combo)
Full Duplex 10/100 Base-T Ethernet
56K v.90 Modem
3x USB, 1 PCMCIA II slot, 1394 port
MS/SD/MMC Card Reader slot
Built-in AC 97 Audio
Built-in two High Quality Speakers
Built-in Microphone
Function key CD Control
LI-ion Battery (approx 4.5 hours)
326 x 270 x 30mm, 2.7Kg
Introductory Price
Php 55,500.00
Upgrade Options
Combo Drive (CDRW/DVD ROM)
Memory 512 DDR
TQM
www.TQM.com.ph
call 526-4503
CnO Computers & Options, Cyberzone SM North EDSA, tel 425-5009
Think PC Gilmore, Gilmore IT Center, tel. 726-0535
Think PC Taft, 2456 Taft Malate, Across DLSU, tel 536-3245
TQM, 704 Vito Cruz, Malate Manila, tel 400-2306 to 10
centrino
MOBILE TECHNOLOGY


ATTENTION
BORROWERS, CO-MAKERS, ENDORSERS, SURETY, GUARANTORS
BANKING & FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
You are INVITED to ATTEND the PUBLIC HEARING on the PROPOSED REVENUE REGULATION implementing
BSP Circular No. 472
(Submission of Income Tax Returns, Financial Statements and Waiver of Confidentiality of Client Information and/or an Authority of the Bank to Conduct Random Verification with the BIR as an additional requirements before granting loans or other credit -accommodations)
Visit www.bir.gov.ph for the Draft of the Proposed Revenue Regulation
February 15, 2005
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
BIR National Office
National Training Center
BIR Compound
Agham Rd., Diliman,
Quezon City
BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE PHILIPPINES

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

Text us your feedback: Inquirer atn name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Gunmen attack Manobo village over land dispute

By Joey R.B. Lozano
PDI Mindanao Bureau

DON CARLOS, Bukidnon—Manobo food and cash crops continue to be bulldozed here to give way to an export crop.

Four tribesmen who tried to get near the heavy equipment to verify the land-clearing activity were fired at, sending them to the hospital.

The massive land conversion to pineapple has no environmental impact assessment and did not pass the scrutiny of the local legislative body, according to Sangguniang Bayan member Jude Palmada.

As if these were not enough, armed men attacked the Manobo village at Purok 6, less than 4 km from the town proper, shortly before midnight of Jan. 26.

Five houses were razed. These belonged to Julieto Latac, Celso Desalan, Rudy Mangguason, Rene Pepe and Albino Col-om.

Total damage was estimated at P500,000.

Before they fled, the attackers riddled two houses with bullets, said Datu Arnulfo Makapukaw Saliot. One belonged to ancestral domain head claimant Bai Marcelina Balahan.

Datu Saliot is a leader of the Nagkahiusang Kahugpungan sa mga Manobo ug Talaandig (Nakamata), a coalition of 13 indigenous peoples organizations in south-central Bukidnon. Nakamata is a partner of Witness, a New York-based human rights group that arms advocates with video cameras to document abuses.

Saliot said the tribe members were able to identify nine of the attackers, all armed with "long rifles," who fled on board three motorcycles. Their names had been submitted to the local police.

They allegedly belong to the group headed by Junie Arances and Liza Matunding. Earlier, Arances and Matunding denied that their members were armed.

Scolded

The desperate Manobo residents ran to Mayor Felix Manzano to air their grievance, but were scolded instead, said Datu Saliot.

"Why squat in areas where Cloas (Certificates of Land Ownership Agreement) had been issued?" the mayor was quoted to have told the people.

The local social welfare office gave the victims some used clothing, three cans of sardines and three noodle packs each.

Agrarian Reform Undersecretary Nasser Pangandaman was set to conduct an inquiry into the recent incidents, including the veracity of the Cloa beneficiaries, Datu Saliot said.

Pangandaman and lawyer Reuben Lingating of the National Commission for Indigenous Peoples earlier issued a joint memorandum ordering the temporary suspension of land acquisition and distribution in contentious areas, such as Don Carlos.

More than 100 schoolchildren of the more than 200 Manobo families had stopped going to school. "They don't have food and transportation money," said Datu Saliot.

"Besides, they now fear being kidnapped [by suspected goons] on their way to school."

"They act with impunity because they have 'legal' papers and have the local government to back them," Datu Saliot lamented, referring to the attackers.

Doubts over the authenticity of Cloa beneficiaries have grown stronger. "I believe that not all [of the supposed beneficiaries] are qualified," Freddie Flores told the INQUIRER by phone.

Flores, a former mayor of Don Carlos, is now the provincial administrator. The governor was out for a village consultation when the INQUIRER called up.

Flores confirmed that it was with Gov. Jose Zubiri's blessing that the pineapple project started.

"The mayor knows everything; politicians such as the governor have to [step in] to solve the land problem," the administrator insisted. He denied claims that the local government was not duly informed of the project.

Not a single suspect has been arrested, although some had been identified.

Ironically, it is the tribe's members who now face criminal charges filed by the pineapple proponent.

Church groups nix coal-fired plants

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—Catholic and Protestant church groups have joined environmental and militant organizations in opposing plans to put up coal-fired power plants in two towns in Iloilo.

In a three-page pastoral statement dated Jan. 16, two archbishops and six bishops in Western Visayas and Romblon said they stood firmly against the putting up of the plants in their dioceses.

"Our preferential bias is for environment-friendly renewable energy technologies and projects," the prelates said in their statement that will be read in Masses on Feb. 20.

Those who signed the statement were Capiz Archbishop Onesimo Gordoncillo, Jaro Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, Kalibo Bishop Jose Romeo Lazo, Bacolod Bishop Vicente Navarra, Romblon Bishop Jose Corazon Tala-oc, San Carlos Bishop Jose Advincula, Antique Bishop Romulo de la Cruz and Kabankalan Bishop Patrick Buzon.

In a separate statement, the Diocese of Iloilo of the Iglesia Filipina Independiente, said its members especially parishioners in northern Iloilo will launch various activities to oppose the plans.

The Committee on Social Issues and Environmental Concerns of the Convention of Philippine Baptist Churches also declared its opposition to coal-fired plants.

"Allowing the establishments of coal-fired plants is leading the people dried pastures and poisoned waters," it said in a statement.

In the pastoral statement, the bishops said the proposed power plants "though the cheapest are also the dirtiest of possible sources of (power)."

They questioned the "reliability and truthfulness" of data of the Department of Energy that projects a power deficit by 2007 on Panay Island.

Based on these projections, government officials including Iloilo Gov. Niel Tupas Sr. are pushing for the construction of the plants in two coastal municipalities in Iloilo.

The DMCI Holdings Inc. and its subsidiary, the Semirara Mining Corp., are proposing to put up a 100-megawatt coal-fired plant in a 30-hectare area in Barangay Nipa, Concepcion town, about 111 km north of Iloilo City.

Mirant Global is proposing to construct another 100-MW plant in Barotac Viejo town, 64.4 km north of here.

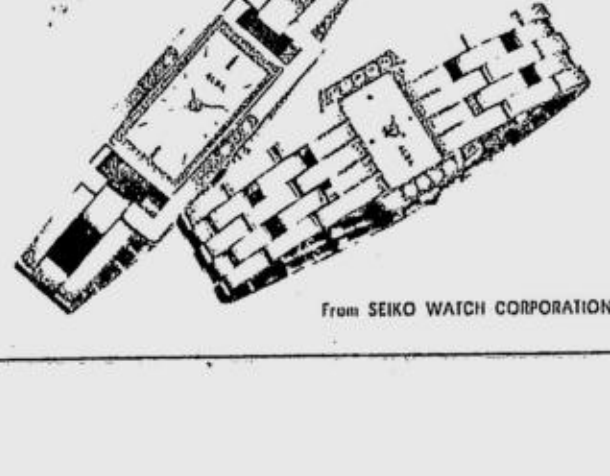
The bishops pointed out that substances emitted by coal plants do not only contribute to pollution and global warming but also contribute to causes of deformities in babies and diseases like cancer.

ROVER SYSTEMS
Electronic Security Systems
CCTV DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDERS
REPLACE YOUR MULTIPLEXER + TIME-LAPSE VCR
DIGITAL MULTIPLEXER RECORDERS
16 Channel
4 Channel
CAMERAS
MONITOR
DMR
HARD DISK NOT INCLUDED
SHOWROOMS
ROVER SYSTEMS (PASIG)
Stall B-9 MC Home Depot, Inc.
168 Ortigas Ave., cor. Meralco Ave.,
Pasig City
Tel No.: 638-3859, Telefax: 638-3860
ROVER SYSTEMS (MAKATI)
Stall 4-B MC Home Builder's Depot
Edsa cor. Pasong Tamo,
Makati City
Tel No.: 840-5623, Telefax: 840-3367
ROVER SYSTEMS (FORT BONIFACIO)
CS#217a -219 MC Home Depot
32nd St., Bonifacio Blvd, Global City,
Taguig
Tel No.: 815-4929, Telefax: 815-4906
MAIN OFFICE
Tel. No.:(632)723-7959 (T. L.) • Cel No.:0917-8364491 • E-mail: info@fairetech.com

ELG
HARI NG INSTALLMENT
No Down Payment
HITACHI
Inspire the Next
Japan's # 1 in Technology and Comfort.
EMILIO S. LIM APPLIANCES
THE LEADER IN SELF-FINANCED AND PERSONALIZED INSTALLMENT SALE
NORTH
APALIT - Rivera Bldg. San Vicente
Cor Mc Arthur Hi-way Apalit, Pampanga
Tels. (045) 970-0037 / (045) 302-6614
BALAGTAS - #307 Mc Arthur Hi-way
Poblacion, Binagtas, Bulacan
Tels (044) 693-3186 / (044) 693-4289
BALANGA, BATAAN - Recar Commercial
Complex Inc. J.P Rizal cor. Zulueta St.,
Brgy Poblacion Balanga City Bataan
Tels. (047) 237-1000 / (047) 791-2554
CALOOCAN - 128-129 Gen. San Miguel
St. Sangandaan, Caloocan City
OAU - Jumbo Jeras Mart, Expressway corner
Mc Arthur Hi-way Dau, Mabalacat City,
Pampanga
Tel. (045) 892-5180
MEYCAUAYAN - Mansfel 1 Bldg. Mc Arthur
Highway, Calvario, Meycauayan, Bulacan
Tels. (044) 635-3304 / (044) 840-0391
PLARIDEL - Bunga 1, Cagayan Valley Road,
Plaridel, Bulacan
Tels. (044) 673-0327 / (02) 290-6509
PRITIL, TONDO - Unit G30 Land Wealth
Mansions, Juan Luna St., Tondo, Manila
CUBAO - #R 20 & 21 3/F Farmers Plaza
Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City
Tels. 913-3060 / 437-7681
KALENTONG - 878-880 Don Kalentong St.
Mandaluyong City
Tels. 534-5419 / 534-5420
LAGRO - Unit 7 Lester Bldg., Quirino Hi-way
Lagro, Quezon City
Tels. 417-5618 / 418-1791
NOVALICHES BAESA - 347 AB & C. Quirino
Hi-way, Baesa, Novaliches, Quezon City
CENTRAL
NOVALICHES PROPER - 1035 Quirino Hi-way
Sta. Monica, Novaliches Proper, Quezon City
Tels. 376-0909 / 936-3420 / 930-8809
SAMPALOC - 2207 España St., Sampaloc
Manila
Tels. 743-4024 / 742-7014
SAN JOSE - 200 Dalisay Bldg., Inarapang
Mangga, San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan
Tels. (044) 69*-9122 / (044) 691-5159
STA. MARIA - Francisco Santiago St.
Poblacion, Sta. Maria, Bulacan
Tels. (044) 641-3112 / (044) 641-2226
BRAND/MODEL — 0% INTEREST — MONTHLY AMORTIZATION (6 MOS. / 12 MOS. / 18 MOS.)
WINDOW TYPE AIRCON
RA 116MAS (1.1HP) — NO CREDIT CARD NEEDED! — 2,166 / 1,988 / 1,587
RA 116WAS (1.1HP) — 2,499 / 2,288 / 1,824
RA 138MAS (1.5HP) — 2,499 / 2,288 / 1,824
RA 136WAS (1.5HP) — 2,799 / 2,569 / 2,049
SINGLE DOOR REFRIGERATOR
R 18P3 (6.5 cu. ft.) — 1,548 / 1,421 / 1,135
R 20PW3 (7.1 cu. ft.) — 1,978 / 1,815 / 1,448
FOR INSTITUTIONAL ACCOUNTS CALL Ms. MARIANNE @ 287-0277 AVAILABLE AT PARTICIPATING BRANCHES

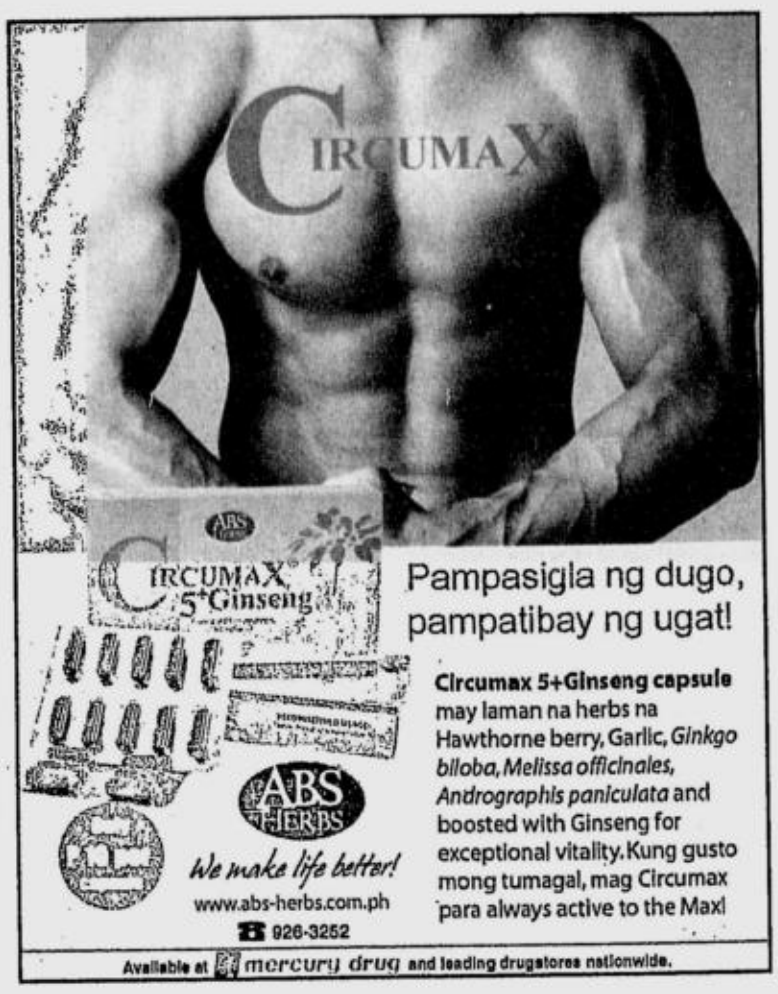
SEIKO
RP's First Choice in Watches
Reader's Digest Philippines SUPER BRAND 2004 Platinum

MORE THAN ANYTHING,
IT'S YOUR WATCH THAT SHOWS YOUR REFINEMENT.

ARCTURA KINETIC CHRONOGRAPH
POWERED BY THE MOVEMENT OF YOUR BODY.
QUARTZ ACCURACY, NO BATTERY CHANGE.
SAPPHIRE CRYSTAL. SEE THROUGH CASEBACK.
www.ssci.com.ph
Always ask for a warranty card
FREE CHECK-UP
Seiko Service Center Exclusive quality service w/ longest warranty
THE BEST SERVICE FOR SEIKO & ALBA WATCHES AT THESE SEIKO SERVICE CENTERS
• MANILA : Nicfur Bldg. Cor. Taft & Quirino Ave., Manila Tel.(632) 523-8676 • MAKATI : Glorietta 1 Ayala Center, across Bank of P. I. Park Square 1 Tel.(632) 892-8302 • LAS PIÑAS : G/F SM Southmall Supermarket Level, Las Piñas Tel. (632) 806-6553 • SM NORTH EDSA 2/F SM City Main Bldg., North Edsa, Q.C. Tel. (632) 929-3097 • NEW FARMER'S PLAZA : Lower Grd, Fl., Food Court Level, New Farmer's Plaza, Cubao Tel. (632) 913-1908 • BACOOR : G/F SM City Bacoor, Aguinaldo Hi-Way, Bacoor, Cavite Tel.(046) 970-4976 • COLONADE CEBU : J. Rodriguez Bldg. Osmeña Blvd., Cebu City Tel.(032) 253-6936 • SM CITY CEBU Lower Grd. Flr., SM City-Cebu, North Reclamation, Cebu City Tel. (032) 232-0782 • DAVAO : Door 4, Rafael Suarez Bldg., C.M.Recto St. Davao City (082) 227-6604
Elegant design in the spirit of today's fashion
25th Anniversary
ALBA
YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS
Available at any SEIKO Service Center and authorized Dealers nationwide

From SEIKO WATCH CORPORATION

TIRED OF INNEFECTIVE SOLUTIONS TO HAIR LOSS?

Why go for wigs and hairpieces when you can have your lost hair restored, permanently? Nu/Hart Hair Clinics, a world leader in hair restoration, is now open in Manila, offering its proven breakthrough procedures and American medical expertise to reverse hair loss using your own natural hair.
With over 50 years of combined surgeon experience and 15 years in business, Nu/Hart has performed over 25,000 individual hair restoration procedures on clients, both male and female, from over 40 countries at its 11 offices in the U.S. and overseas.
Unlike hair pieces and wigs, Nu/Hart's hair transplant solution is:
- Permanent and growing
- Natural
- Maintenance-free
- Affordable (Easy Payment Plans)
- No monthly visits
- No ongoing expenses.
Call or visit us now for a FREE CONSULTATION.
638-6000
26/F Wynsum Plaza, 22 Emerald Ave., Ortigas (Behind Discovery Suites)
visit our website at www.nuhart.com
or email us at manila@nuhart.com
NU/HART HAIR CLINIC
There's a new you waiting at Nu/Hart.
Manila • New York • Chicago • Atlanta • Pittsburgh Philadelphia • Denver • Puerto Rico • Dubai


CIRCUMAX
CIRCUMAX 5*Ginseng
ABS HERBS
We make life better!
www.abs-herbs.com.ph
926-3252
Pampasigla ng dugo, pampatibay ng ugat!
Circumax 5+Ginseng capsule may laman na herbs na Hawthorne berry, Garlic, Ginkgo biloba, Melissa officinales, Andrographis paniculata and boosted with Ginseng for exceptional vitality. Kung gusto mong tumagal, mag Circumax para always active to the Max!
Available at mercury drug and leading drugstores nationwide.

MINDORO KILLINGS

Kin seek justice for slain lawyer

HEART TO HEART
Intellisense Blood Pressure Monitor Model T8
• With Intellisense (Bio-Information Sensing Technology for accuracy, comfort & ease-of-use)
• World's fastest, measures in just 24 seconds
• Fully Automatic
• Personalized Inflation Level
• Memory and recall function (up to 14 readings)
• Clear and large display
Passed standards set by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and tested for accuracy by the British Hypertension Society (BHS) and the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instruments (AAMI)
Exclusively distributed by Collins International Trading Corporation
OMRON
A Good Sense of Health
Available at Automatic Centre, Abenson, Watsons, SM Star Appliance and Sogo

CITY OF CALAPAN—On the first death anniversary today of murdered lawyer Juvy Magsino and Leyma Fortu, their respective families and friends are asking for justice as they remember their loved ones.

"During the one-year period, there has been only one hearing conducted on the case," said Magsino's mother, Leonila.

The hearing was held Feb. 7 at the Quezon City Regional Trial Court Branch 218.

Magsino's father, who took his favorite child's death very seriously, died of heart attack more than a couple of months after, said relatives. Magsino became a lawyer at the request of her father, after his unjust experiences in the farm.

Fortu's mother Rosalina and Leonila had written the Integrated Bar of the Philippines on Jan. 31 for legal assistance in the double murder case against Reynante Antenor and three other unidentified assailants. Antenor is now in jail.

Magsino was a human rights lawyer and vice mayor of Naujan town when gunned down while driving her vehicle with Fortu, a teacher and acting secretary general of Karapatan-Mindoro Oriental.

The Kubayi Mindoro Oriental-Atty. Juvy Magsino Center has joined the Magsino and Fortu families in calling for justice for the two.

"Kubayi, Mangyan term for woman, has been helping battered wives, among others," said Nanette Geronimo, Kubayi chair.

"She lived her life with ordinary people, seeking to comfort their spirits in whatever way she could, giving them strength to stand for their rights and struggle, and giving them the courage in their fight for a righteous and just government," Geronimo said of Magsino.

Madonna T. Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Reds slam E. Visayas posting of Army exec

LUCENA CITY—Communist Party of the Philippines spokesperson Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal predicted the escalation of militarization and human rights violations in Eastern Samar with the appointment in the area of a controversial Army official.

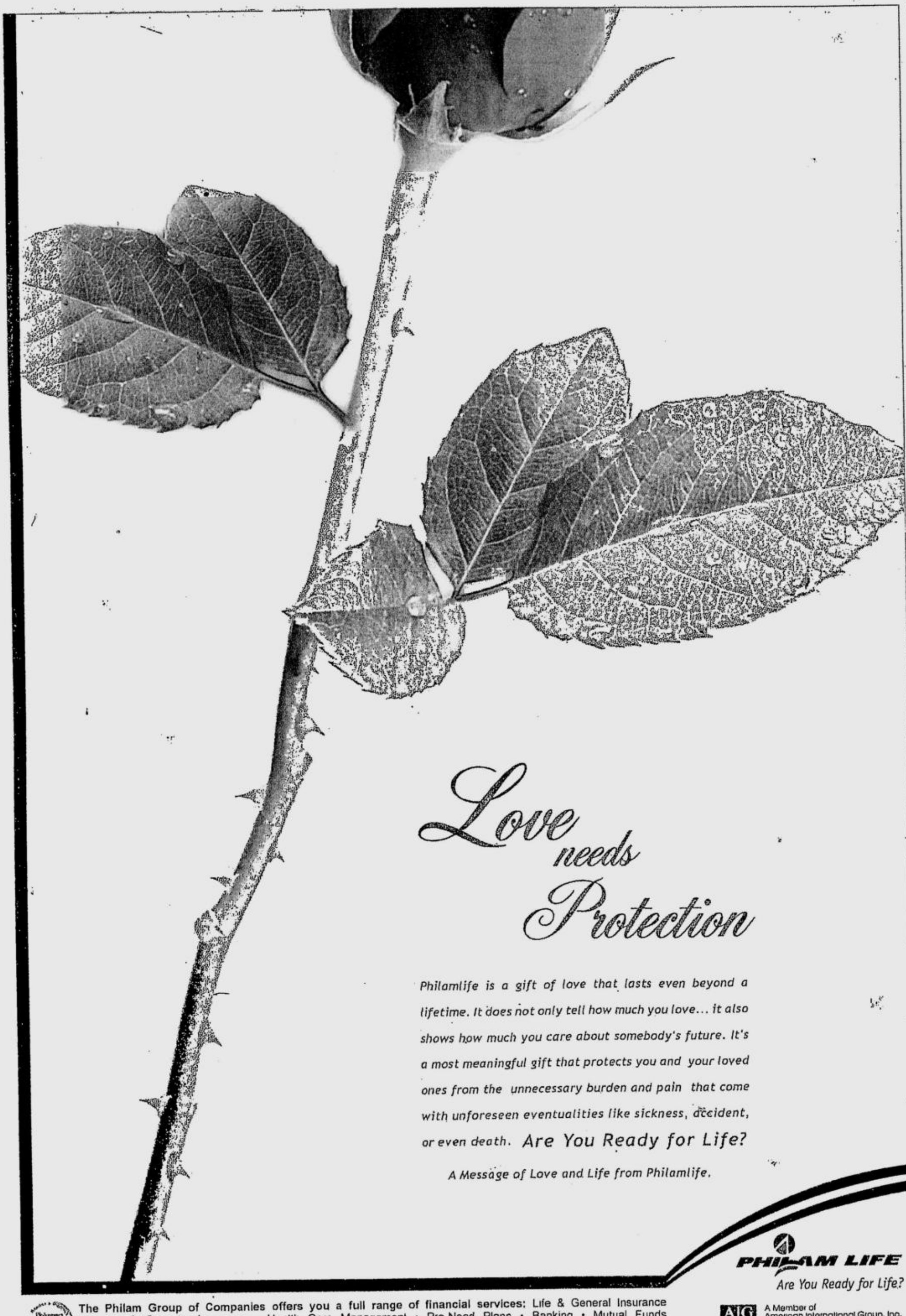
Rosal said the promotion of Brig. Gen. Jovito Palparan as commander of the Army's 8th Infantry Division based in the area, "shows the callousness of the Armed Forces of the Philippines with regard to the victims of Palparan's wave of terror in his areas of assignment."

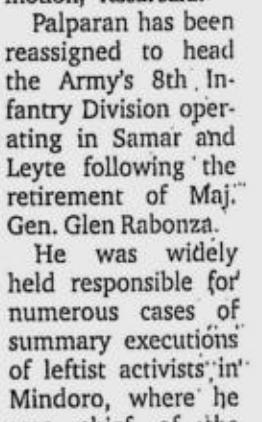
"The Arroyo regime has once again rewarded one of its most vicious fascist commanders with a promotion," Rosal said.

Palparan has been reassigned to head the Army's 8th Infantry Division operating in Samar and Leyte following the retirement of Maj. Gen. Glen Rabonza.

He was widely held responsible for numerous cases of summary executions of leftist activists in Mindoro, where he was chief of the Army's 204th Infantry Brigade from 2002 to 2004.

Despite several cases filed against him for gross human rights violations, Palparan has had a steady and upward career path in the military. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*


Love needs Protection
Philamlife is a gift of love that lasts even beyond a lifetime. It does not only tell how much you love... it also shows how much you care about somebody's future. It's a most meaningful gift that protects you and your loved ones from the unnecessary burden and pain that come with unforeseen eventualities like sickness, accident, or even death. Are You Ready for Life?
A Message of Love and Life from Philamlife.
PHILAM LIFE
Are You Ready for Life?
AIG A Member of American International Group, Inc.
www.ephilam.com
The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of financial services: Life & General Insurance Property & Casualty Insurance • Health Care Management • Pre-Need Plans • Banking • Mutual Funds Property Development • Credit Cards • Business Process Outsourcing • Bancassurance • Financial Advisory Services
Contact us at: (02) 528-2000 or text ASK<space>AD/ROSE/YOUR NAME/YOUR TOWN OR CITY and send to 0918 974 4526 / 0917 521 5433



PALPARAN

More lumber seized in Mindoro, Albay

BACO, Oriental Mindoro—Some 300 board feet of abandoned lauan and tangile (Philippine mahogany) lumber were confiscated by members of the 409th Provincial Mobile Group of the Oriental Mindoro Provincial Police Office on Thursday in Ilog Tiboy, Barangay Sta. Rosa 2, about 10 km from this town's poblacion.

Police found the abandoned wood products after a concerned citizen reportedly tipped them off.

PO3 Reydulmar Pumida, team leader of the 409th PMG, said the rains that poured in the night of Feb. 9 could have helped slide the lumber down through the slippery mountain trail to the river, whose strong current could have carried them to where they were found.

The police found the lumber underneath several rafts made of bamboo tied together with a floater in the middle.

The rafts were carrying bananas and vegetables as camouflage.

"You would not notice them if not for the tip given to us by a resident," said Pumida.

The area is a dead end where a six-wheeler truck was also seen.

"Illegal logging cannot be happening without the knowledge of concerned officials," said Fr. Allan Fallaria, who was with the raiding team.

Juan dela Cruz, Department of Environment and Natural Resources head in Oriental Mindoro, however, reiterated that there was no illegal logging in the province.

"This is guerrilla-type timber poaching. Illegal logging refers to a widespread operation, from 10 to 100 hectares," he clarified.

Dela Cruz added that he issued a memorandum on Dec. 13, 2004, to the military, police, Coast Guard and maritime offices to provide security to the DENR Task Force in manning checkpoints.

Fallaria said that since he was assigned to Baco town years back, he had been receiving information on illegal logging in their place.

"But the Quezon experience pushed me to act. We will be like Quezon in 10 years if this goes unabated," he said.

PO2 Aristeo Lolong of the 409th PMG said his group, while looking for a "wanted" robber in 2003, found more than 2,000 board feet of logs in a mill site, an eight-hour walk up the Baco mountain.

Dela Cruz confirmed that the area was one of the identified hot spots for lumber transport.

Other hot spots are Barangay Lisap in Bongabong town and Barangay Villa Cerveza in Victoria town.

In Sitio Hanopol in Barangay Concepcion, Naujan, about 12 km from the poblacion, 14 flitches of illegally sawn narra worth P20,000 were confiscated on Feb. 5 from Jannifer Montellana, 24, and Meynard Cesar, 34, both from Barangay Antipolo of the same town.

A team from the 409th PMG and the Army's 204th Infantry Brigade caught them cutting down the tree. The two said they were paid P150 per day for the job.

A police source said the narra was about 70 years old, more than 1.5 m in diameter and as high as an electric post.

This prompted about 40 residents of Barangay Concepcion to sign a manifesto on Feb. 3 objecting to the cutting down of trees in their place.

In Tiwi, Albay, police seized some 250 pieces of abandoned flitches of narra in different sizes, which were earlier discovered scattered along the shoreline of Barangay Mayong.

Chief Insp. Froilan Navarrosa, team leader of the 501st Provincial Police Mobile Group, said the narra flitches were unloaded from a motorized banca locally known as "pakpakan" at the shoreline of the village.

Initial police investigation showed that the flitches came from Catanduanes and were supposed to be transported to Manila when they were discovered in Tiwi.

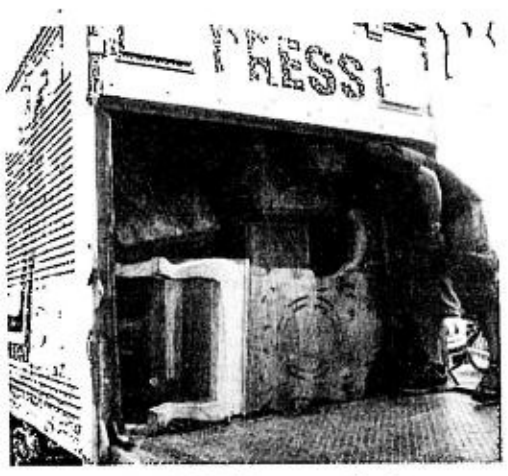
Some of the confiscated logs are now impounded at the Tiwi Municipal Police Office for safekeeping.

Others are now under the custody of the Albay Provincial Police Office here.

Madonna Virola, Leo Martin B. Ganace and Jed Ll Bacason, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

EUROPE'S NO. 1 ALL NATURAL
POTENSAN®
www.potensan.com
SUPER SEX pill
For Men..... and Women
Stronger, Harder, More Sustained Performance
Up to 3 days residual effect
Increased Sexual Desire and Lubrication
• 100% natural herbs
• Contains NO CHEMICALS that cause side effects
• Proven safe and very effective
• BFAD - Approved
Once you've tried it you won't want to live life without it!
For more information, pls. call our Hotline:
Mon to Fri: (02) 843-1586
(02) 843-4411 from 8 am to 6 pm
Available at:
mercury drug
& other leading drugstores nationwide

Sleepless Nights?
Don't take your sleep problems for granted.
MELATONIN-T™
your NATURAL sleep remedy
for a refreshingly restful sleep
Recommended dose is 1 - 2 capsules 30 minutes before bedtime.
For more Info. CALL 815-3239
From:
TRIANON International, Inc.
"Your partner towards better health."
Manufactured by NOW International, Bloomingdale, Illinois, U.S.A (Consistent Recipient of the VITY Awards in the U.S.A) Distributed by TRIANON International, Inc. Suite 110-A Narra Bldg. 2276 Pasong Tamo Ext. Makati City; E-mail: trianon_international@hotmail.com; Available in all Mercury and WATSONS branches, and all leading drugstores nationwide.
TRIANON
MELATONIN-T
3 mg.
FOOD SUPPLEMENT
30 CAPSULES



NOT NEWSPAPERS but narra furniture pieces were found inside this van in Santa Fe, Nueva Vizcaya.

MELVIN GASCON/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Newspaper delivery truck yields hot narra

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—Agents of the National Bureau of Investigation here seized a newspaper delivery truck found transporting undocumented narra furniture.

Lawyer Florencio Binalay, NBI district chief here, said the truck, which used to distribute copies of a broadsheet and a tabloid newspaper to four Luzon provinces, was discovered loaded with P200,000 worth of narra furniture bound for Metro Manila on Jan. 30.

NBI agents chased and caught up with the delivery truck in Barangay Consuelo in Santa Fe town, about 50 km from here, after receiving a tip from an informant, Binalay said.

An inventory of the items seized showed that about 10 pieces of furniture—a bed, a table and chairs—were not declared in the shipping documents issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Naguilian, Isabela.

The items belonged to the Santa Maria Multi-Purpose Cooperative and the Alinguigan Multi-Purpose Cooperative, both in Ilagan, Isabela.

Binalay said they would file charges against truck drivers Ernesto Calaluan and Luisito Delgado and truck owner Rogelio Hina.

Binalay said the truck delivers newspapers to distributors in Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Nueva Vizcaya and Isabela. On their return trip to Metro Manila, they load up the truck with pieces of furniture.

"According to one of the suspects, they have become a popular hauler among furniture traders because they are spared from inspection when passing through checkpoints," he said.

Antonio Principe, DENR Cagayan Valley director, ordered Roberto Apigo, Nueva Vizcaya environment officer, to investigate why the alleged contraband had managed to pass through the DENR checkpoints in Cordon, Isabela, and Aritao, Nueva Vizcaya.

Apigo said he had asked the NBI to turn over the case to them for verification of the documents. "We would like to assure them that there will be no whitewash in this investigation," he said. *Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

WESTERN
Sweet Melodies
SAMSUNG 1300W Mini Component
₱1023.61 monthly for 12 months
w/ FREE Microphone
Movie Nights
JVC (29") Flat MTS Stereo CTV w/ FREE TV Rack
₱3118.61 monthly for 12 months
PLUS get 50% Price Off on a DVD Player (XV-N318S)
Pretty as a Picture
CANON Digital Camera •4.0 Megapixels •5.7X Digital Zoom
₱2485.92 monthly for 12 months
w/ FREE Carrying Case & Teddy Bear
Six Ways to say... I LOVE YOU
Love Notes WOW!
MARIG KING PREMIUM
Videocke Anytime, Anywhere!
₱1149.86 monthly for 12 months
w/ FREE Headphone
Love is in the Air
FEDDERS 12660 Kj/Hr Room Aircon
₱1637.29 monthly for 12 months
w/ FREE Rice Cooker
Heart Warmer
GE 17 Liter Microwave Oven w/ 10 Power Levels
₱506.44 monthly for 12 months
w/ FREE Special Edition Thermos
MAIN OFFICE
34 Morato St.
San Francisco del Monte
Quezon City
Tel. 373-4501 to 05
Fax 414-9075
Commonwealth Branch
G/F Unit C13-C15
Ever Commonwealth
Commonwealth Ave., QC
Tel. 931-5632/931-5050
Fax 931-5669
Kalookan Branch
747 Rizal Ave. Ext.
Kalookan City
Tel. 361-2766/361-3055
Fax 361-2751
Megamall Branch
Bldg. A Lower Ground Flr.
SM Megamall
Mandaluyong City
Tel. 638-4210
Fax 635-2071
P. Tuazon Branch
178 P. Tuazon Ave.
Cubao, QC
Tel. 911-5551 / 912-7829
Fax 911-5553
Sta. Lucia East Mall Branch
Basement Level
Sta. Lucia Grand Mall
Tel. 645-1582/645-8366
Fax 646-1416
NOW OPEN
ARANETA SQUARE
4th Floor, Araneta Square
Bonifacio Circle,
Kaloocan City
Tel. 362-8343
Festival Mall Branch
3/F. Filinvest Corporate City
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Tel. 850-3746
Fax 850-3758
Farmer's Plaza Branch
Upper Ground Floor
New Farmer's Plaza
Aranota Center Cubao, QC
Tel. 911-1915/439-0065
Fax 911-1917
Farmer's Annex Branch
16 Gen. Araneta Ave
Farmer's Market Cubao, QC
Tel. 911-2514/439-0060
Fax 911-2585
Grand Central Branch
G/F Ever Gotesco
Grand Central Complex
Kalookan City
Tel. 364-5341/364-5383
Fax 363-3623
Sta. Rosa Branch
G/F Target Mall
Balibago, Sta. Rosa, Laguna
Tel. 809-2349
Fax 809-2295
Recto Branch
1421-1425 C.M. Recto
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. 711-5671 to 74
Fax 711-5675
Prices shown are based on Equitable Cards reduced installment rates

For Muslim-Christian pair, love conquers all

From page A1

all get along, whatever ideology and belief. The bottom line is, we're all equal. (Islam) and Christianity both profess equality."

As she and Khayer celebrate their first Valentine's Day as a couple, Michelle said she placed her trust in the similarities of their religions.

"We both believe in one God. It's not our religion that's going to judge us in the afterlife. It's how we treat other people. It's how we live," she said.

Khayr and Michelle were wed here in solemn rites under Sharia law on Jan. 24. Their 20 wedding sponsors attested that the marriage symbolized unity—long elusive in several areas in Mindanao.

Among the sponsors were Libyan Ambassador Salem Adam, Saudi Arabian Ambassador Mohammed Amin Wali, Sen. Richard Gordon, Lanao del Sur Rep. Benasing Macarambon, Mayor Aminullah Arimao of Masiu, Lanao del Sur, former Sulu Gov. Tupay Loong and Datu Harun Dimarunsing.

Khayr's mother, Bai Putra Norhata, who was formerly with the Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor, echoed the call for unity.

"We Filipinos should unite regardless of religion. We should open our hearts and minds to each other," Norhata said.

"The solution to the Mindanao problem lies in the hearts and minds of non-Muslim Filipinos. They should accept that we are Filipinos like them. That is the message," she added.

Since childhood

Khayr and Michelle said their marriage sealed their love and capped their struggle to make their families accept the relationship.

The two were classmates and friends from Grade 7 through high school in O.B. Montessori in Greenhills, San Juan.

Michelle went to Switzerland and finished a course in hotel and restaurant management and then busied herself in the family's food and beverage business in Metro Manila. Khayr went to De La Salle University where he earned a psychology degree.

In between her studies abroad and her duties in managing the family business, Michelle spent time in Balanga City in Bataan.

Khayr, the great grandson of the late Sen. Alauya Alonto, the first nationally elected Muslim senator, shuttled between Marawi City and Metro Manila and started a career in government service.

Romance, finally

It seemed their paths would never cross. In March 2002, the two attended a friend's wedding. Later that year, they started to date.

Michelle was interested in his culture. Khayr was already familiar with Christian ways, having grown up in a Christian settlement.

It was, as they say, inevitable. They fell in love.

When they decided to get married, their parents at first found it hard to accept the union.

NEWLYWEDS Abul Khayr Alonto II and Michelle Robles.

TONETTE OREJAS/PDI CENTRAL LUZON DESK

The resistance, the couple explained, was not because of discrimination.

"They were worried for us—how the differences in our cultures would make things difficult for us," Michelle said.

From the heart

Khayr and Michelle decided to "fight for our love."

He wrote his father a long letter, pleading for understanding. She held long conversations with her father, and convinced him that they truly loved each other.

They spoke from the heart.

Two unlikely mediators came forward.

Gonzales, the brother of Michelle's mother, turned out to be a longtime friend of Alonto's.

Norhata, who has been married to Alonto for 34 years, became Khayr's strongest ally.

"I did not make it appear to my husband that I really favored the relationship. I tried to pave the way slowly because my husband is a good man and he has a good heart," Norhata said.

"He finally saw the love they had for each other. Who are we to plan? Who are we to dictate on our son? If he's in love with Michelle, there must be something about her," she said, recalling the time her husband finally gave his consent to the union.

Breaking traditions

With that, traditions were broken.

"All of my siblings' marriages were arranged by my parents. I was the first to choose my wife," Khayr said.

"I was the first in the family to marry a non-Christian," Michelle said.

They chose to marry in Pampanga, a former Muslim settlement.

The bride wore a pink Muslim-inspired gown designed by Patis Tesoro and a tiara of pink pearls and precious stones.

Under the guidance of an *imam* (Islamic cleric) and in rites that allowed only male members of the clan, Khayr spent more time exchanging vows with the father of the bride than with the bride herself. He said his vows three times, affirming his love for Michelle.

The couple said the marriage ceremony was just the first step. They would need a lot of patience and a lot of love to make their unique marriage work.

Khayr said: "We are taking things one day at a time. The important thing is we are together."

Massacre of Agustinians, San Juan de Dios staff

From page A1

cloisters and patios.

"Sister Caridad Ocampo, 45, was a Daughter of Charity on the staff of Santa Isabel College in Intramuros. Sister Caridad had accompanied the Mother Superior of Santa Isabel to seek shelter for her community in San Agustin. Sister Caridad found herself a new role as girls rushed up to her and the other nuns, seeking protection. Japanese personnel, singly and in groups, were going about shining flashlights or lamps into the faces of the women. Anyone they fancied would be taken forcibly to secluded corners ... and subjected to sexual abuse ..."

The director of the San Agustin Museum, Fr. Pedro Galende OSA, told the INQUIRER that the Augustinian superior in 1945, Rev. Manuel Diez Canseco, and his 15 priests tried their best to help the thousands of evacuees.

"It was not the first time that our church and convent had played such a role. Civilians also sought shelter after the big earthquakes in the 17th century and during the Chinese and British invasions," he said.

Lone survivor

Father Galende said Iwabuchi's soldiers massacred all but one of the Augustinians, together with 24 other Spanish priests. The lone survivor was the convent procurator, Fr. Belarmino de Celis, OSA. He later retired to the Basque region of Spain.

As told by historian Aluit, Father De Celis and the 39 other religious, along with 80 civilians, were marched out to the ruined Palacio del Gobernador. Among the civilians was Dr. Antonio Gisbert Sr.

They were surrounded by soldiers and herded into two large caves in the ruins of the Palacio. De Celis was among the first to enter the larger cave and thus he was pressed all the way to the back. The Japanese threw live grenades through the ventilation holes of the chamber. The Augustinian priest was shielded from shrapnel and smoke by the packed bodies in front of him.

Aluit continues the survivor's story: "He was but slightly hurt by the grenade explosions although he was deafened. Desperately, he made his way to the entrance and clawed through the earth wall until he made a small hole through which he breathed the air outside ...

"Inside the cave there was eerie silence, broken only by the painful moans of the dying. The dead bodies began to stink. The friar clawed some more at his hole and it grew bigger ... Clawing and scratching with his bare hands, Father De Celis finally enlarged the hole enough for him to crawl out into the open. That night, he lay among the weeds in the open sky."

San Juan de Dios Hospital

On Feb. 6, 1945, "a group of 20 to 30 Japanese ... entered the San Juan de Dios hospital in Intramuros. Accompanied by the senior physician still on duty, Dr. Manuel Lahoz, who assumed the functions of acting director, the Japanese inspected the hospital and searched the wards, the rooms and the private quarters of the staff. The hospital was suspected as a source of communications to the Americans in North Manila (for) American artillery had been making extremely accurate hits on Japanese gun emplacements.

"The staff of Dr. Lahoz at this time included the resident physician Dr. Cecilio Noriega and the hospital dentist Dr. Leandro Corrales, with a nursing staff composed largely of Daughters of Charity. There were also about 50 hospital attendants and 90 patients, six of whom were foreigners.

'What horrors'

"The Japanese officer ordered the staff to vacate the premises as the building would be burned. (So) the San Juan de Dios group formed a ragged procession in the streets turned battlegrounds and headed for the ruins of the Santa Rosa college ...

"We were no safer here but at least we were all together," wrote Sr. Concepcion Gotera in her dairy. "What horrors, mothers transfixed with grief with dead infants in their arms; human bodies roasted alive in the fires around us ... uncomprehending children watching over their mothers' bodies stretched lifeless on the hard earth.

"At about 2 o'clock on Saturday, Feb. 17, Mrs. Benita Lahoz, 31, was roused from sleep in their makeshift shelter in the ruins of Santa Rosa college. A hospital attendant came in to tell her that the Japanese were looking for the hospital director. Dr. Lahoz dressed and put on his shoes. He got his senior staff together composed of the physician Noriega and the dentist Corrales.

"With three male medical attendants—Luis Urrutia, Lazaro Cordero and Conrado Pili—they went out to meet the Japanese. From the Santa Rosa college ruins, the Japanese soldiers brought the six men across a small plaza to the ruins of the Santo Domingo church. Here the men were lined up against a wall and bayoneted to death," Gotera narrated.

Forgiveness plea

Just before the bayonet struck, Dr. Lahoz's killer, a Japanese, had sought his forgiveness.

The Japanese later buried him at the side of the San Agustin Church, preventing his joining the mass grave in which lay the other male doctors and patients.

Manuel's wife Benita, who had witnessed the killing of her husband, related this to Antonio Lahoz, Manuel's brother, when she came to Vigan, Ilocos Sur, to present Manuel's bones sometime in the 1960s. The bones are now in the family mausoleum.

The Japanese who killed Manuel could have been his patient or friend, said Antonio, quoting Benita.

Benita has since remarried, Antonio, 80, a retired surgeon, told the INQUIRER. Since Benita turned over Manuel's remains to the Lahoz family they have never been in touch, Antonio said.

Manuel was the acting director of the Quezon Institute when the Japanese occupied the building and transferred its physicians, patients and personnel to the San Juan de Dios Hospital in Intramuros, according to Antonio.

Hell breaks loose

Francisca Guinto-Juco, her five children and several other families now found their place at the Soliven compound on Herran untenable because of the shelling and burning around them. They sought shelter at the Philippine General Hospital on Taft Avenue. The PGH became their temporary home as it was for thousands of other civilians.

The eldest Juco girl Estelita, who later became a much-respected journalism mentor, led her siblings in scrounging for food around the hospital grounds. The bombardment from US troops closing in on the Japanese intensified. Shells rained over the compound, crashing into the hospital wards.

Estelita Juco

Now the people rushed madly down corridors and crowded into halls, as the remaining glass panels shattered and walls collapsed. The PGH wards swirled in confusion.

The account in "By Sword and Fire" continued: "The Juco family had to move again.

"Estelita, the eldest daughter at 14, helped her mother calm her brood. The girl stooped to pick up her bundle of clothes and, as she did so, a burst of shrapnel neatly sliced off her right arm, gashed her left arm and cracked her left kneecap. But Estelita did not know this ... She was in a daze and somehow her view of things was not correct. A tiny particle of steel had embedded itself in her right eye.

"But now the first echelon of American soldiers rushed in through the front gate of the hospital. Estelita looked up from her stretcher into the face of one of the American soldiers and she exclaimed, 'America, you came too late.'" *With a report from DJ Yap, PDI Research*

(Conclusion: "I saw my father die beside me.")

FORMER prisoners of war are shown during the Liberation of Manila. HANDOUT PHOTO

Rice charms Europe, but skepticism remains

From page A1

to Iran's threat to destroy Israel.

"The point is that the prospect of an Iranian nuclear weapon is deeply destabilizing ... for peace and security internationally," Rice said.

"That's why there has been, I think, now very strong international consensus that Iran cannot be allowed to go down that route," she added, stressing that Britain, France and Germany have "given the Iranians an opportunity to demonstrate that they are serious about living up to their international obligations."

Close consultations

In Brussels, Rice said the United States remained in "close consultations" with its European allies on the issue, but warned that Washington would not accept foot dragging and that Iran could not indefinitely delay accountability for its nuclear weapons program.

She pointed out that the United States had set no deadline for Iran to act. Britain, France and Germany have engaged Iran in serious negotiations to persuade the country to abandon its nuclear weapons program.

While the United States has backed the dialogue, it has kept a distance from the effort, and does not, according to diplomatic sources, expect the talks to succeed.

Washington has indicated it would ask the UN Security Council to impose sanctions on Iran, if the dialogue failed. The European Three are less impatient than the United States on referring the issue to the United Nations.

Rice reflected this impatience when she chastised the European Three for not taking a tougher line with Iran over its pursuit of nuclear weapons.

The difference in the US and European approaches to the Iran issue serves to highlight the difficulties surrounding the healing of the trans-Atlantic alliance.

Bitterness dissipated

The contrast of diplomatic approaches remained hard to conceal despite the more amiable ambience in which Rice was received by the European leaders. The hostility and bitterness that marked relations between them and President George W. Bush in the wake of the invasion of Iraq three years ago have dissipated.

Apparently gone in Rice's visit was the antagonism that the US official created when, as national security adviser of the first Bush administration, she said at the height of the tensions over the war: "Forgive Russia, ignore Germany, and punish France."

Washington was so angry at the fierce French opposition to the US invasion of Iran that American officials took the silly action of erasing French fries from the menu of the Capitol Hill cafeteria, renaming them as "patriotic fries."

European Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson said that with Rice's visit, the United States and European Union had pulled back from the "abyss of a trans-Atlantic gulf."

Reflecting a conciliatory tone after meeting the European leaders, Rice said: "This is an alliance that understands that its future is common. The times are different a year or two years ago. What has changed is a much stronger desire to resolve our difference rather than live with our differences, and a greater acceptance that the challenges that confront us have to be tackled on the basis of shared analysis, common outlook and agreed action."

In a keynote speech at the French Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Rice said Europe and the United States must "turn away from the disagreements of the past" and work together for common democratic goals in the Middle East and around the world.

She said the United States and Europe cared deeply for and respected each other and should "discuss and decide together" on their common agenda.

Paying tribute to historical ties between the United States and France, Rice said: "Imagine where we would be today if the brave founders of French liberty or of American liberty had been content with the world as it was ... America has everything to gain from having a stronger Europe as a partner in building a stronger and better world."

Elegant twist

It took French Foreign Minister Michel Barnier to give the exchange of pleasantries at the foreign ministry at Quai d'Orsay an elegant twist with a demonstration of the famous Cartesian skepticism. "We helped you in your birth (as a nation) sometime ago; you helped us not to die," Barnier said.

The press scrutinized and commented on Rice's clothes and her "look"—smart suits, matching shoes , single lines of pearls the only jewelry, and "never a hair out of place."

Despite the warm atmosphere, observers said US-European relations will not be easily resolved.

Reflecting typical European reaction to Rice's mission, former French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing said: "In the past, one spoke of alliance led by the United States. Now we are moving to a different at attitude that is partnership with Europe."

Taking the same tack, Barnier welcomed Rice's call for a fresh start, but emphasized that the allies had to "listen to each other more and respect each other's opinions. Allliance is not allegiance," he said.

Pointed response

The French comments were a pointed response to Rice's speech at the Paris think tank.

She said the United States was committed to an effective United Nations, to Nato and to good relations with America's European allies.

But Rice insisted the United States would continue to form alliances "outside these formal frameworks," and that US foreign policy would continue to be based on commitment to democratic change in the Middle East and the support of freedom and liberty everywhere."

Some commentators have observed that just because the French and the Germans "were intrigued, and, in the end, charmed by her, doesn't mean they feel better disposed to George Bush and his view of the world."

Tatad: Pagcor operating ...

From page A1

for in the 1977 presidential decrees that created Pagcor and gave the state-owned firm a 25-year franchise.

"Without a valid franchise, Pagcor's gambling operations would be no different now from a criminal syndicate's clandestine activities," Tatad said in a statement.

Pagcor operates casinos where slot machines and table games are played. In 2002, its income reached P20.12 billion. The following year, it remitted P8 billion to the government.

Pagcor is mandated to give a portion of its earnings to the Presidential Social Fund, which is sometimes described as the President's pork barrel.

Tatad accused Malacañang and administration lawmakers of faking the franchise expiration date by making it appear that the gaming corporation was given a fresh 25-year term when then President Ferdinand Marcos consolidated the five Pagcor-related decrees into Presidential Decree No. 1869 on July 11, 1983.

Marcos consolidated PDs 1067-A,-B,-C, 1399 and 1632 to facilitate their enforcement and application. He also amended some of the provisions in the decree, but the 25-year term of Pagcor's franchise "was not disturbed at all," Tatad said.

Railroaded

"The Arroyo administration realized its situation too late. So in an effort to cover up its incompetence, the House leadership railroaded last December a bill that deliberately misrepresents the 25-year franchise as having taken effect only on July 11, 1983, instead of Jan. 1, 1977, and expiring only on July 11, 2008, instead of having already expired on Jan. 1, 2002," Tatad said.

House Bill No. 3409, now in the Senate, seeks to amend PD 1869 by granting Pagcor a new 25-year franchise, renewable for another 25 years "from the expiration of its original term on July 11, 2008," Tatad said.

"It is a gravely fraudulent and ignoble bill. It is pure hocus-pocus," he said. "Still, the deception will not work. The corrupt bill must be stopped. The Senate, if it is still worth anything, must throw it out."

Old issue

Pagcor public relations official Dodie King dismissed Tatad's charge, saying it was a rehash of old accusations by Batangas Rep. Hermilando Mandanas.

Last year, Mandanas filed House Bill No. 3217 that sought to abolish Pagcor. He claimed that its franchise had expired in 2002.

Mandanas was one of the few lawmakers who voiced strong objection to HB 3409 while it was still under House deliberation.

"It's an old story, it's an old issue," King said.

King said PD 1869 effectively superseded the original presidential decrees even though it did not have any specific wording about the 25-year term being renewed.

Regular process

Asked about Tatad's allegation, Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri (Lakas, Bukidnon), chair of the House committee on legislative franchises, said HB 3409 went through the regular legislative process.

"How can it be railroaded when it was defended on the floor twice in a row?" Zubiri said.

"Had it been railroaded, Speaker (Jose) de Venecia could have gone home early and probably saved his house and his daughter from fire," he said.

Zubiri was referring to the approval of the bill on third and final reading on the night of Dec. 16 at about the same time a fire was razing the Makati residence of De Venecia, an incident that claimed the life of the Speaker's youngest daughter KC.

The chair of the committee on legislative franchises said HB 3409 was given priority because it was considered a revenue measure. Pagcor is one of the biggest income-generating state firms.

Zubiri said his committee held public hearings on the bill, which was passed on final reading during the last 12th Congress but did not become law.

Until 2007

He said the original Pagcor franchise of 25 years was supposed to expire in 2002. But he said Marcos issued a decree five years after the original Pagcor charter was written, extending the Pagcor franchise to 2007.

"Pagcor has secured a number of lower court rulings and even opinions from the Department of Justice from way back upholding the validity of its franchise until 2007," Zubiri said.

He recalled that some congressmen had claimed that Pagcor's franchise had expired in 2002.

"But during the floor deliberations, we told them that it was not up to Congress to determine whether or not Pagcor has been operating either legally or illegally since 2002," Zubiri said.

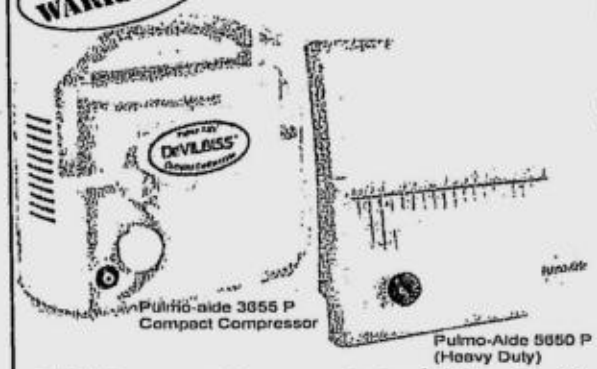
"We stood by our opinion that it was up to the courts, particularly the Supreme Court, to resolve this question," Zubiri said.

"As far as my committee was concerned, Pagcor has court rulings and DOJ opinions saying its franchise is good up to 2007," he said. *Reports from DJ Yap, PDI Research, and Carlito Pablo*

TRUSTED ALL OVER THE WORLD

Pulmo-Aide Compact Compressor and Nebulizer from DEVILBISS U.S.A

5-YEAR WARRANTY



Relief that lasts!

Accessories:
- Pediatric Aerosol Mask
- Disposable Nebulizer Kit
- Air Filter
- Carrying bag (Compact Compressor)

Effective, Reliable, Affordable for ASTHMA & other Respiratory Disorders

medical center trading corporation

Pasig City	Manila City	Cebu City	Davao City	Iloilo City	Lipa City	Pampanga	Pangasinan
(02) 631-1715	(02) 711-8374	(032) 254-2367	(082) 222-4404	(033) 320-1413	(043) 757-2051	(045) 961-7892	(075) 568-7390

Available at all mercury drug Branches Nationwide

ADVISORY

Attention: All Loyola Education Planholders & Enrollees

Loyola PLANS CONSOLIDATED, INC.

1. For first time availment for school year 2005-2006, please submit your documents for processing.

2. For current availing Loyola Education Planholders:

a. In Metro Manila, releases will start March 15, 2005.

b. For provincial Loyola Education Plan availments, Releases will start April 1, 2005.

On its 36 years

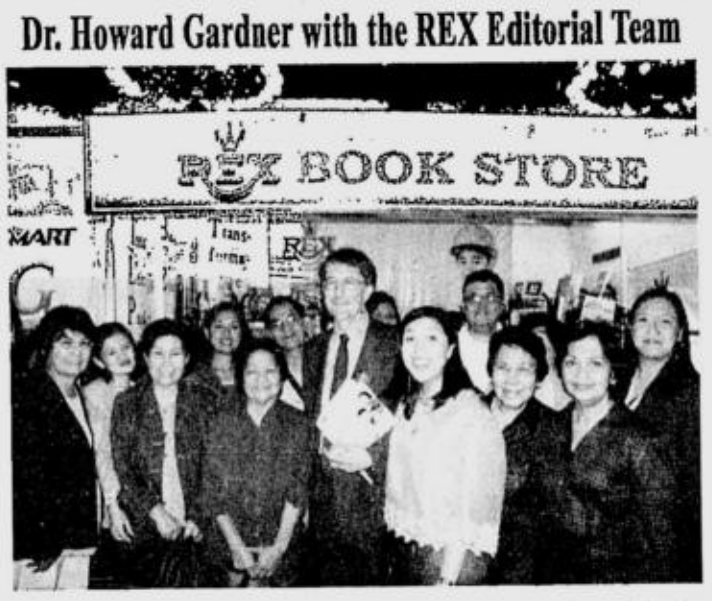
For inquiries text us at:

Smart 0920-9LOYOLA (5 6 9 6 5 2)

Globe 0917-8519997

"THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION HAS NOT ... ADVERTISEMENT OR DETERMINED IF THIS IS ACCURATE OR ... REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY CONSTITUTES A ... SECURITIES REGULATION CODE AND IS CRIMINAL ... PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE ... EXCHANGE COMMISSION ANY MISREPRESENTATION ... INACCURATE STATEMENT."

Dr. Howard Gardner with the REX Editorial Team



True to its commitment of producing quality educational materials for all Filipino learners, **REX Book Store, Inc.** (RBSI), sent all its editors from basic education to the college level to listen and learn more from **Dr. Howard Gardner, the Father of Multiple Intelligences** theory. REX editorial team join the over 2000 delegates of the 1st Philippine Multiple Intelligences Convention held in Manila Hotel, February 11-12, 2005.

San Beda College

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Mendiola, Manila

Curricular Instruction Using Information Technology
Humanistic and Christian Approach to Patients
Predominantly UP Graduate and UP-PGH Trained Faculty

General Admission Information for the Academic Year 2005 – 2006

1. Applicants must submit the following requirements for evaluation.
   a. Original Transcript of Records of the last 3 ½ years of Baccalaureate program.
   b. Four copies of colored pictures (2x2)
   c. Two Certified copies of Birth Certificate
   d. Certificate of Good Moral Character from a former professor or dean
   e. Two letters of recommendation from a former professor or dean.
   f. Police Clearance

2. Applicants must have taken the National Medical Admission Test (NMAT) before June 2005.

3. Applicants must pay the application fee and secure an application form from the Dean's Office.

4. Applicants must pass an Interview session given by the Admissions Committee.

5. Applicants must obtain their Baccalaureate degree by the end of the second semester preceding admission to medical school. Those who will graduate after the summer session preceding admission to medical school will be considered on a case to case basis.

6. Applicants should have no criminal conviction current or past.

7. Applicants must have critical thinking and leadership qualities.

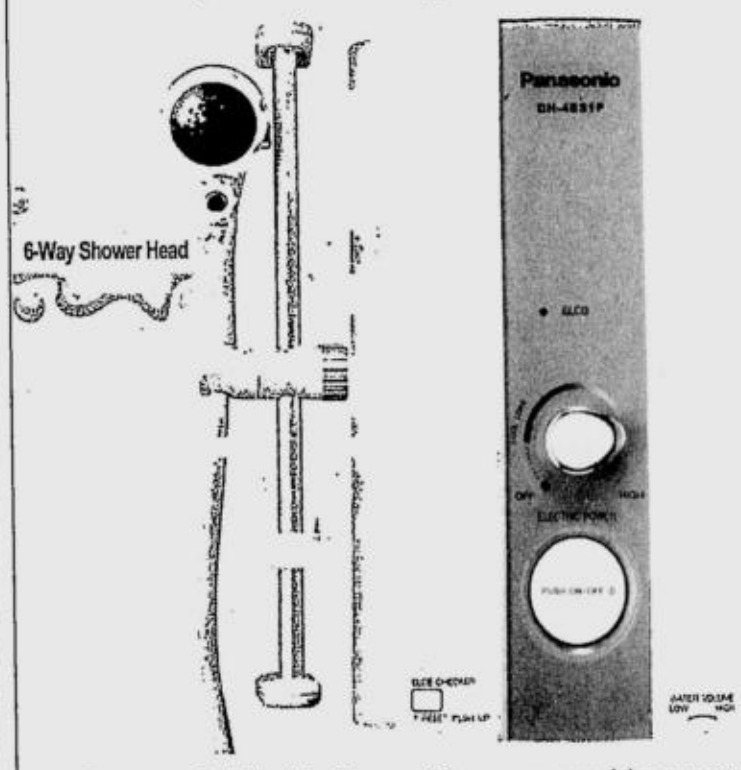
8. Applicants must have been recommended by the Admissions Committee to the Dean of the San Beda College of Medicine for acceptance.

Application forms may be obtained at:
Office of the Dean, College of Medicine
Tel. no.: 7356011 loc. 4116/4520
Cellular: 0927-8193936
Email: sanbedacolmed@yahoo.com
Deadline: April 29, 2005

"That in all things God may be glorified."

Panasonic
ideas for life

Provides Instant Warm Showers Faster! For Highland Areas.



All Models w/ BUILT-IN ELCB (Earth Leakage Circuit Breaker that protects you against electrical leaks)

DH-4BS1P 4.4 kW

Panasonic Electric Home Showers provide you warm showers with adjustable 6-way shower head from spot massage to soft spray. Now, that's variety for the whole family.

OTHER MODELS:

DH-3BP1P 3.3 kW w/ 6-way Shower Head | DH-3BD1P 3.3 kW w/ 6-way Shower Head | DH-302P 3.3 kW | DH-6AM1P 6.0 kW | DH-10AM1P 10.0 kW

Distributed by **Rockford Marketing Corp.**

Visit us at our Showroom:

METAL-LITE ILLUMINAZIONE MARKETING
- LIBIS 911-9466 • 911-9451
- CUBAO 913-1975 • 913-1072
- ARANETA AVE. 749-2176 • 743-1286

MC HOME DEPOT BRANCHES
- MAKATI 840-1951 • 893-2832
- ORTIGAS 634-6556 • 633-4023
- FORT BONIFACIO 815-6217 • 815-6218

SERVICE CENTERS: MANILA 722 Moriones St., Tondo, Tel.: 245-3133 / 245-3135-40

DAGUPAN FILCO, 141 Rizal St., Dagupan City, Tel. (075) 522-0883, 515-2275
CEBU, M.L. Quezon St., Casantingan, Mandaue City, Cebu, Tel.: (032) 346-7013
BACOLOD, # 2 Silos Apartment, San Juan St., Bacolod City, Tel.: (034) 433-3566
CAGAYAN DE ORO, J. Mindabus Drive, Julio Pacana St., Puntod, Cagayan de oro City, Tel.: (088) 856-8556, (088) 227-2545
DAVAO, 2nd Floor Victoria Plaza Mall, Davao City, Tel.: (082) 221-4775

Available at all electrical and appliance stores nationwide and at all ACE Hardware & Hardware Workshop, Inc.

SUERTRES 9 6 6 (In exact order)
EZ2 11 24

SUPERLOTTO 6/49
2 9 18 23 29 30
₱11,581,672.20

SWEEPSTAKES
4 5 5 2 3 3 C
₱100,000.00

Text us your feedback: inquirer met name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

METRO

E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Ester G. Dipasupil ■ Assistant Editor Cenon B. Bibe

RP-Japan drug link eyed

THE PHILIPPINES could be a source of shabu entering Japan, thus the National Bureau of Investigation and the Japan police have agreed to cooperate in battling the menace.

NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco, who flew to Japan in the last week of January, said the bureau and the Japanese National Police had agreed to provide each other with data about the latest trends in the manufacture of shabu.

The trends pertain to the latest equipment, precursors and modus operandi that the illegal drug manufacturers use, he said.

"(We have) agreed to help and support each other to address the illegal drug problem. This is a very positive development," he said. *Leila B. Salaverria*

BRUTAL MURDER

Septuagenarian friends in pre-Valentine killing

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

AFTER shooting her in the back of the head, the killer slashed her throat, as if to make sure the 71-year-old victim was dead.

That scene played out the last moments in the life of Rosalia Lopez, who was murdered along with her housemate Gregorio Taruc, 70, in Quezon City, 30 minutes past midnight Saturday.

Lopez and Taruc had just arrived from a pre-Valentine's Day party and were stepping out of a cab in front of their house on Makabayan Extension in Barangay Obrero when the assailant struck.

With his gun blazing, the attacker repeatedly shot Taruc, hitting the latter five times in the head, according to investigator PO2 Jun Fortunato.

One of the bullets went through the head of Taruc, who was sitting in the front passenger seat, and hit the right arm of cab driver Sonny Rarugal, 46.

Dead on the spot

Taruc died on the spot, while Rarugal was later taken to a hospital.

After peppering the septuagenarian man's head with lead, the attacker turned to Lopez in the back seat and shot her once.

The bullet hit Lopez in the nape and caused her to slump inside the taxi.

Fortunately, police said, a daughter of Lopez who accompanied her and Taruc to the party in nearby Barangay Piñahan managed to run away after the initial shots were fired.

Police said that when the shooting stopped, the assailant took out a knife, walked up to Lopez and ran the blade across her neck before making his escape.

Lopez later died while undergoing treatment at the East Avenue Medical Center.

An on the scene search did not produce any spent shells and prompted police to believe that the suspect used a revolver in the attack.

Attacker not identified

Later, during investigation at the Central Police District headquarters in Sikatuna Village, Quezon City, Regina said that she did not know the attacker.

According to her statement to the police, she and Lopez were acting as companions to Taruc, who reportedly owned the house on Makabayan Extension.

"They said they were taking care of him," PO2 Fortunato told the INQUIRER.

However, Regina clarified that they were not employees of Taruc and that the male victim only occasionally gave them money.

Asked if Lopez and Taruc had a deeper relationship other than being friends, Regina said they did not.

She told police that her mother had long been separated from her father, whom she said was abroad.

Police refused to comment on any possible motive in the brutal murder.

MMDA advises lovers to simply stay home

By Irene C. Perez

A LOT of cooing and wooing will be going on today, but that perfect Valentine's Day date might just get spoiled by traffic.

With lovers expected to flock malls, hotels and motels today, Metropolitan Manila Development (MMDA) Chair Bayani Fernando is telling couples to be ready for heavy traffic, especially in the evening.

Otherwise, Fernando's advice is for them to spend Valentine's Day at home.

"Traffic might spoil your day. Couples who don't want the hassle can stay home and settle for fast-food orders, or even home cooked food," Fernando said.

The MMDA chair said traffic flow in the metropolis would not be rerouted for this day of hearts. However, he added that traffic enforcers would be deployed in areas traditionally frequented by lovers.

He identified some of these as roads leading to malls, restaurants and moviehouses in Makati, Quezon City and Mandaluyong.

Fernando also pointed out Sta. Mesa in Manila, Cubao in Quezon City, Pasay City and Pasig City, which host a number of motels and appartelles which are usually jam-packed during this season.

One to two traffic enforcers will be deployed on intersections near these "hot spots," said Angelito Vergel de Dios, MMDA Traffic Operations Center Executive Director.

In case of need, the agency has motorcycle units to respond to traffic problems, he added.

Nonetheless, Vergel de Dios said Metro Manila's roads might be spared the onslaught of lover traffic because of hard times.

He said married couples might choose to stay home instead of spend Valentine's Day outside.

Vergel de Dios also noted that it was a day short of payday so traffic might be put off until after Feb. 15.

Fate works against most wanted man

By Luige A. del Puerto

YOU CAN hide from the authorities, but can you run away from fate?

For more than a year, a suspect in the killing of PO1 Michael Dennis Corpuz in November 2003 has evaded arrest.

But on Friday night, fate caught up with Ronnie dela Rosa when he took a jeepney and shared a ride with a colleague of Corpuz at the Western Police District.

"What a coincidence," blurted Sr. Supt. Ericson Velasquez, chief of the Mandaluyong Police. "They took the same jeepney!"

Velasquez said PO3 Jaime Villaranda of the WPD saw De la Rosa at about 11:30 p.m. then sought help from police in Kalentong, Mandaluyong City.

De la Rosa, who was believed to be residing in Manila, was carrying with a bag of *pandesal* when apprehended.

Corpuz was gunned down by four men on board a white taxicab in November 2003.

"He has admitted responsibility to at least three cases of robbery, but he denied shooting PO1 Corpuz," Velasquez said.

"What matters is that there is a warrant out for him, and that he has been identified as one of Corpuz's killers," the police official said.

HELP IN A HURRY!
FIRST AID KIT
MC McBride
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT MERCURY DRUG STORE 2nd Flr. Glorietta 3, Makati
• 5 Bantam Strips • Menthol Plaster • Tornlquet (1 ft.) • 3 McBride Gauze Pads (Sterile 4 x 4) • Eye Pad
• Alcohol • Aromatic Spirit of Ammonia • Plaster (1 x 5) • Ice Bag #6 • 4 Dicloverine Tablets • 4 Attapulgite Tablets
• 4 Mefenamic Acid tablets • 4 Cimetidine Tablets • Acrinol (30 ml) • Cotton (10 g) • Burn Ointment • Oral Thermometer
• Elastic Bandage • Thumb Forceps • Operating Scissor • First Aid Kit Box • McBride Triangular Bandage
Available in mercury drug Stores Nationwide
Manufactured for and Exclusively Distributed by: medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City Tels. 631-1715; 631-9355; 637-9504
Fax (632) 631-7869 E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph
Pasig City (02) 631-1715 | Manila City (02) 711-8374 | Cebu City (032) 254-2367 | Davao City (082) 222-4404 | Iloilo City (033) 320-1413 | Lipa City (043) 757-2051 | Pampanga (045) 961-7892 | Pangasinan (075) 568-7390

HONEY MOON
LOVE POTION FOR MEN
HONEY MOON TEA (instant tea) is a natural love potion
LAGING HANDA
AVOID EMBARRASSMENT & FRUSTRATION

SHARP IMAGER
The Only Digital Copier You Need.

Growing risks?

As your business grows, so do the risks involved.
Keep your company secrets safe with the Sharp Data Security Kit (DSK). The first to receive a Common Criteria validation worldwide, the **Sharp DSK erases and encrypts company data that is automatically stored in your copier's hard disk** each and every time a document is scanned, copied or printed. This way you can prevent vital information from getting into the wrong hands. Further protect your growing business with *Sharpdesk*™, a revolutionary document management system that drastically streamlines workflow ensuring optimum productivity and helping you sustain growth.

Sharp, best for your business.

DATA SECURITY KIT

Sharpdesk™, your document management solutions partner.

C-Copy Manila Tel: 245-9110; 245-9112; 245-9114; 245-4640 to 41 Fax. 245-9109
C-Copy Ortigas Tels: 631-8714 to 18 Fax: 631-8719
C-Copy Alabang Tels: 775-0614 to 17 Fax: 775-0613
C-Copy Calamba Tels: (049) 545-9042 to 44 Fax: (049) 545-9045
C-Copy Makati Tels: 521-2574
C-Copy Quezon City Tel: 372-0176 to 79 Fax: 372-0174
C-Copy Cebu Tel: (032) 346-2985; (032) 346-3976; (032) 346-4565 (032) 420-5806

C-Copy CORPORATION better closer working harder.
5837 Zobel Roxas Street, Palanan, Makati City
Call Center: 525-9911 loc. 104/105
Copier Sales Fax: 525-9860
Service, Parts & Genuine Consumables
Fax: 525-9870

C-xclusive and authorized Master Distributor of SHARP genuine consumables & original parts.

Runaway monkey pestering Makati village folk

By Irene C. Perez

IF YOU pass by San Miguel Village in Makati City and happen to see a monkey perched on a tree or electric post, call the police or inform residents.

The primate has allegedly been pestering village folk in the Barangay Poblacion community for a week now, and efforts to catch it have been futile, Anthony Torre, security officer of the village yesterday said.

Torre said the monkey, which was as big as a year-old baby, could have been someone's pet, but no one's claiming it.

According to him, the furry animal shows itself in the mornings and late afternoons, appearing in one street and popping up in another.

In the week it had been loose, the monkey has reportedly destroyed property and gained the ire of residents in the village of about 100 families, Torre said.

The other day, it broke a car wiper on F. Zobel Street.

Yesterday afternoon, it took and broke a 9-year-old boy's toy on the same street.

Because their village is lined with trees, Torre said the monkey picked up the habit of throwing fruits on passersby on Candelaria Street.

There are also reports that the monkey once entered a house on Layog Street and smashed bottles.

On another occasion, the primate ripped laundry off a resident's clothesline.

Torre said they hope to catch the monkey before the residents' patience runs out.

The security officer explained that if everything failed, they might be forced to shoot it with an air gun.

Parañaque goes online

By Irene C. Perez

RESIDENTS of Parañaque can now course their grievances over garbage or report suspected drug pushers in the city using the Internet.

With the launching of www.paranaquecity-council.com on Saturday, residents need not line up at the City Hall to report complaints, post suggestions or questions.

Parañaque City Vice Mayor Anjo Yllana, in a statement, guaranteed confidentiality of all online transactions.

He assured those planning to report illegal activities that "They will be protected. We will not divulge their names especially if the complaint delves on sensitive issues."

Atienza closes Pagcor arcade

By Tarra V. Quismundo

RESPECT our sensitivities.

With that stance, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza ordered the closure of a slot machine arcade of Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor) on Friday afternoon, after the gambling facility allegedly opened illegally during the Chinese New Year.

Operatives of the Western Police District Special Operations Group enforced the order and shut down the arcade inside the Premiere Hotel in Sta. Cruz.

"Some people don't seem to realize that there are certain local regulations that have to be respected. And they persisted on operating it even if they were not allowed to. I'm sure Pagcor will respect our decision," said Atienza over the phone yesterday.

The mayor said Pagcor tried several times to secure a permit from the city government, but its application was repeatedly denied.

A recent check at City Hall's Business Promotions and Development Office showed that slot machine operations inside Premiere Hotel had indeed not been issued a business permit, a requirement for every business establishment in Manila to operate.

"We consider the sensitivities [of the community], especially since it was right across the church," said Atienza of the arcade at the hotel fronting Sta. Cruz Church.

SPO4 Danilo de Gala of the WPD-SOG said investigation showed that the slot machine arcade began operating on Feb. 9, and was open from 2 p.m., until the "wee hours of the morning."

But Dodie King, Pagcor public information officer, said the slot machine arcade was not yet operational.

"Actually, we were calibrating the [slot] machines," King said.

He added that no patrons were allowed to play inside the premises.

"About the closure, I have to check on that," King said in a phone interview yesterday.

The mayor was otherwise okay with Pagcor operations in other parts of the city, including a slot machine arcade inside Binondo Suites on the corner of Ongpin and Gandara Streets in Binondo. The much-protested gaming facility has not opened as of yet.

King said that Pagcor, by law, could put up gaming facilities in Manila, but that they did not assert this authority and still coordinated with local officials.

Bomb left in Pasay

By Irene C. Perez

A BOMB was found on Saturday evening on the parking lot fronting the Japanese Embassy and a condominium on Roxas Boulevard in Pasay City.

The Pasay Police Special Weapons and Tactics team defused the bomb wrapped in a camouflage jacket inside a black backpack reportedly left by two unidentified men some 70 meters from the Japanese Embassy and the Antel Tower, PO2 Romel Merino said.

According to the police, PO1 Angel de la Cruz of the Pasay police saw two men arguing at the parking lot and approached them.

As he was coming, one of the suspects flagged an FX taxi and the two fled.

De la Cruz opened the suspicious package with a stick and found the bomb.

Merino said they did not believe that the suspects were targeting the embassy.

Computer Problem? We come to YOU!
PCHelp HOME & OFFICE COMPUTER SERVICE
Honest and Experienced Technicians
✔ DIAGNOSTICS ✔ PRINTER/MONITOR
✔ UPGRADES / NEW COMPUTER SETUP
✔ VIRUS REMOVAL ✔ SOFTWARE PROBLEMS
✔ NETWORKING ✔ MAINTENANCE
LOW SERVICE RATES JOBS GUARANTEED
for home/office service, call: 727-2222

AURORA LAMINATOR
LM450HC
PHP. 1,595.00
4" Laminator
Dual Mode: HOT & COLD Settings
Laminating temperature: 120 C (248 F)
Laminating thickness: 75-100 Micron (each side)
Laminating speed: 0.3m (13") / minute
Ready Light
LM950HC
PHP. 3,750.00
9" Laminator
Dual Mode: HOT & COLD Settings
Laminating temperature: 120 C (248 F)
Laminating thickness: 75-100 Micron (each side)
Laminating speed: 0.3m (13") / minute
Ready Light
Distributed by: ASTECH PENGSON DISTRIBUTORS INC.
For dealership application please contact us at tel Nos.
MANILA 634-8351 to 59
CEBU (032) 344-1185
DAVAO (082) 221-0585

IAME
A World Class Business School
International Academy of Management & Economics
Foreign Faculty Members with Global Business Experience
Top-off with UK, US, Australian, and Swiss School Affiliates
International Exchange and Internship Programs
Scholarship/Grants Available for Incoming Freshmen
Intensive English Class for Foreign Students
MBA Designed for young managers Part-time in one year
eMBA Executive Program Part-time in one year
PhD Open to DBA graduates or equivalent One-on-one instruction
Under graduate Program:
Diploma in Management
Bachelor of Business Administration
•Management •Marketing •Banking •HR •Finance
1061 Metropolitan Ave. (turn left off Ayala extension) San Antonio Village, Makati City Philippines
T 7572608 / 09 loc. 11 / 14 & 8962358 Fax 8962351 Email: programs@iame.edu.ph
www.iame.edu.ph
Name: _____ Program: (tick one) ☐MBA ☐EMBA ☐PhD ☐BSBA ☐Dip
Address: _____ Contact No/s: _____
_____ e-mail: _____

IN SINK ERATOR
FOOD WASTE DISPOSER
BOILED WATER DISPENSER
TRASH COMPACTOR
MADE IN USA
220V. 60HZ
CLEAN & EASY
1. Turn on the water
2. Turn on the ISE food waste disposer
3. Feed in the food waste
4. Turn the disposer and water off
Clean up in today's Modern Kitchen has never been easier.
EXCLUSIVE PHILIPPINE DISTRIBUTOR:
GILLEST HOLDINGS, INC.
2426 Jose Abad Santos St., Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. 254-9353/54 Fax No. 253-0579
WARRANTY: SIX MONTHS PARTS & LABOR (PARTS & SERVICE AVAILABLE)

MFI MERALCO FOUNDATION, INC.
...excellence in Technical Training and Professional Development
· Automotive
· Refrigeration & Air Conditioning
· Electronics
· Electrical
· Information Technology
· Instrumentation
· Mechanical
· Values & Professional Development
www.mfi.org.ph
tel. nos. 632-0756 to 67 locals 431-433
fax nos. (632) 633-3623
email : ttcp@mfi.org.ph
ISO 9001:2000

ELECTRICAL
Industrial Electrician P4,500/66hrs: 8:30-12:00 M-F Feb21-Mar18; 1:30-5:00 M-F Feb21-Mar18; 5:30-9:00 M-Th Feb21-Mar24; 8:00-5:30 Sat Mar19-May07; 8:00-5:30 Sun Mar20-May08
Building Wiring Installation and Maintenance P4,500/60hrs: 8:30-12:00 M-F Feb21-Mar17; 5:30-9:00 M-Th Feb21-Mar22; 8:00-5:30 Sat Mar18-May07
Electrical Control Wiring Installation and Troubleshooting P4,500/48hrs: 8:00-5:00 Sun Mar20-Apr24; 1:00-5:00 M-Th Mar07-Mar24
Motor and Transformer Rewinding P4,500/60hrs AutoCAD P4,800/72hrs: 5:30-9:00 M-Th Feb21-Mar22; 8:00-5:00 Sun Mar20-May08
AutoCAD P4,800/72hrs: 8:00-9:00 M-F Feb14-Feb21; 8:30-12:00 M-F Feb21-Mar21; 1:30-5:00 M-F Feb21-Mar21; 5:30-9:00 M-F Feb21-Mar21; 8:00-5:30 Sat Mar19-May17; 8:00-5:00 Sun Mar20-May18
Advanced Industrial Motor Control P4,500/60hrs: 5:30-9:00 M-Th Feb21-Mar22; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar18-May07; 8:00-5:00 Sun Mar20-May08

MECHANICAL
Lathe Machine Operation P7,000/40hrs: 5:00-9:00 MTTh Feb28-Mar15; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr02
Milling Machine Operation P7,000/40hrs: 5:00-9:00 MTThF Feb28-Mar16; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr02
Basic CAD/CAM P4,500/40hrs: 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar17; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr02
CNC Milling Programming P4,500/40hrs: 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar17; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr02
Gas Welding Cutting & Brazing: 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar17; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr02

APPLIED ARTS AND SCIENCES
Enhancing Comm. Skills P3,500/21hrs: 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Mar19
Creating Preventive Maintenance Systems P3,500/21hrs: 9:00-5:00 Sat Mar06-Mar19
SCHEDULE of Orientation and FREE Seminars
Career Orientation (Instrumentation) ... Feb. 22
Entrepreneurial Appreciation ... Feb. 23
Personal Enhancement ... Feb. 24
TIME 5:30 PM
VENUE Audio Visual Room

INSTRUMENTATION
Pneumatic Ind'l. Controls P4,800/42hrs: 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar18; 8:00-4:00 Sat Mar05-Apr16
Electro-Pneumatics P4,800/42hrs: 5:30-8:30 M-F Mar28-Apr14; 1:30-8:30 Sat Apr02-May07
Basic PLC P4,800/42hrs: 8:00-3:00 Sun Apr03-May15; 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar18; 1:30-8:30 Sat Mar05-Apr16
Advance PLC P5,400/42hrs: 8:00-12:00 M-Th Feb28-Mar18; 8:00-4:00 Sat Mar05-Apr16; 1:00-5:00 M-F Mar07-Apr18; 5:30-8:30 M-F Mar28-Apr14
Calibration for Process Instrumentation P4,800/36hrs: 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar18; 2:00-8:00 Sat Apr02-May07
Industrial Process Controls P4,800/36hrs: 5:30-8:30 M-F Mar28-Apr14; 8:00-3:00 Sat Mar05-Apr16
SCADA Visualization using Wonderware InTouch P4,800/36hrs: 5:30-8:30 M-Th Feb28-Mar18; 8:00-3:00 Sat Mar05-Apr16; 8:00-3:00 Sun Apr03-May15
Process Automation Course P8,800/72hrs: 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Apr14
Machine Automation Course P12,900/126hrs: 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-May06

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Web Page Designing Using Dreamweaver P8,000/30hrs: 9:00-12:00 M-Th Feb14-Mar01; 3:30-8:30 Sat Feb26-Mar26
Developing Web Animation using Flash P8,000/30hrs: 8:00-3:00 Sat Feb19-Mar19
Macromedia Flash Action Script P8,000/30hrs: 9:00-9:00 M-Th Feb14-Mar01
Visual Basic.Net Fundamentals P8,500/45hrs: 9:00-12:00 M-Th Feb28-Mar23
JAVA Programming Fundamentals P7,500/42hrs: 9:00-12:00 M-Th Feb14-Mar04
Introduction to Oracle 9i, SQL P10,000/48 hrs: 9:00-12:00 M-Th Jan17-Feb10; 8:00-5:00 Fri Jan21-Feb26; 5:30-8:30 Sat Jan29-Mar19; 1:00-5:00 Sat Jan24-Feb18
Administering Active Directory P8,000/36 hrs: 8:00-9:00 TWTh Feb16-Mar10
Administering Windows Networks P9,000/54hrs: 8:00-5:00 M-F Feb14-Feb23; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar13-May08; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar13-May08
Network Technology P7,000/45 hrs: 9:00-4:00 M-Th Feb21-Mar03; 8:00-3:00 Sat Apr02-May21; 5:30-8:30 M-Th Feb14-Mar06
Linux Network Administration Linux IO P5,500/30hrs: 8:00-5:00 Sun Feb20-Mar13

ELECTRONICS
Basic Electronics P4,500/36hrs: 8:00-12:00 M-Th Feb28-Mar14; 8:00-12:00 M-Th Mar21-Apr06; 1:00-5:00 M-Th Feb28-Mar14; 1:00-5:00 M-Th Mar21-Apr06; 5:30-8:30 M-F Mar07-Mar22; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr09; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr09
Microcomputer Hardware Fundamentals P4,800/36hrs: 8:00-12:00 M-Th Feb28-Mar14; 8:00-12:00 M-Th Mar21-Apr06; 1:00-5:00 M-Th Feb28-Mar14; 1:00-5:00 M-Th Mar21-Apr06; 5:30-9:00 M-Th Jan17-Jan31; 8:00-5:00 Fri Mar04-Apr08; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr09
Microcomputer Hardware Servicing P5,100/35hrs: 8:30-12:00 MWTh Feb28-Mar17; 8:30-12:00 MWTh Mar28-Apr14; 1:30-5:00 MWTh Feb28-Mar17; 1:30-5:00 MWTh Mar28-Apr14; 5:30-9:00 MWTh Mar07-Mar30; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr09
Advanced Microcomputer Hardware Servicing P5,100/35hrs: 5:30-9:00 M-Th Mar07-Mar22; 8:00-5:00 Fri Mar04-Apr08; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr09
Television & Monitor Servicing P4,800/38hrs: 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb18-Mar15; 5:30-8:30 M-F Mar21-Apr08; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr09
Home Video P3,600/20hrs: 8:00-12:00 Sat Mar05-Apr09
Practical Cellular Phone Servicing P5,100/27hrs: 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar10; 5:30-8:30 M-F Mar28-Apr07; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar05-Apr09

AUTOMOTIVE/RAC
Basic Driving Course P6,000/15hrs: 8:00-12:00 M-F Feb14-Feb17; 1:00-5:00 M-F Feb21-Feb24; 1:00-5:00 Sat Feb26-Mar19; 8:00-12:00 M-F Mar28-Mar31
Auto Engine Electrical P3,000/42hrs: 9:00-12:00 M-F Feb28-Mar17; 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar17; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar12-Apr16
Auto Body Electrical P3,600/48hrs: 2:00-5:00 M-F Feb28-Mar21; 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar21; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar12-Apr16
Gas Engine Mechanic P4,200/60hrs: 8:00-12:00 M-F Feb28-Mar25; 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar25; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar12-Apr30
Diesel Engine Mechanic P4,200/60hrs: 2:00-5:00 M-F Feb28-Mar25; 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar2; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar12-Apr30
Basic Car Maintenance P2,900/30hrs: 8:00 5:00 Sat Feb18-Mar12; 2:00-5:00 M-F Feb28-Mar11; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar12-Apr02
Electronic Fuel Injection Servicing P4,200/48hrs: 9:00-12:00 M-F Feb28-Mar21
Undercha Mechanic P3,900/50hrs: 2:00-5:00 M-F Feb28-Mar25
Refrigeration and Aircon Mechanic P4,500/60hrs: 9:00-12:00 M-F Feb28-Mar25; 2:00-5:00 M-F Feb28-Mar25; 5:30-8:30 M-F Feb28-Mar25; 8:00-5:00 Sat Mar12-Apr30

CHECK YOUR OWN BLOOD PRESSURE HASSLE-FREE
HARTMANN GERMANY
New! TENSOVAL® BLOOD PRESSURE MONITORS
TENSOVAL MOBIL
• Fuzzy Logic
• clinically validated
• pulse synchronization
• date and time
• acoustic signal
• stores 60 readings & takes means
• guaranteed 2.000 measurements
• for wrist circumference of 12.5cm to 20.5cm
TENSOVAL COMFORT
• Fuzzy Logic
• clinically validated
• pulse synchronization
• stores 60 readings & takes means
• large easy-to-read LCD-display
• guaranteed 1.500 measurements
• easy handling by clear 2-button use
• comfortable preformed cuff for upper arm
• circumference of 22-32 cm
Exclusively Distributed by: medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St. Cor Shaw Blvd Pasig City
Tels. 631-1715 • 631-9355 • 637-9504
Fax. (0632) 631-7809 • E-mail. medcen@info.com.ph
MANILA 711-6374
PAMPANGA (045) 961-7862
PASIG 631-1715
ILOILO (033) 320-1413
CEBU (032) 254-2367
UPA (043) 757-2061
DAVAO (082) 222-4404
URDANETA (078) 568-7390
Available at mercury drug
Stores Nationwide

Globe
PLATINUM
YOUR OWN RULES.

ALBUM OF THE YEAR.
RECORD OF THE YEAR.
SONG OF THE YEAR.
NOW, CONCERT OF THE YEAR.

Globe Platinum brings you 8-time Grammy Award winner Norah Jones. The world's best-selling singer performs for one night at the Araneta Coliseum on March 12.

Enjoy a 20% discount on tickets, exclusively for Globe Platinum subscribers. Just present your Globe Platinum card at any TicketNet outlet.

Experience Globe Platinum for real. Subscribe now and get a chance to win VVIP tickets and meet Norah Jones after the show.* Call 730-1000 for more information.

All Globe subscribers get a chance to win tickets for every ringtone download.
Text NORAH to 2346

Title	Keyword	Title	Keyword
Carnival Town	carnivaltown	*Sunrise*	sunrise
Come Away With Me	comeaway	*The Prettiest Thing*	prettything
Creepin' In	creepin	*Those Sweet Words*	sweetwords
Don't Know Why	dntknowy	*Toes*	toes
Don't Miss You At All	dntmissu	*What Am I To You?*	watami2u
Moon Song	moonsong		

To download, text N <keyword> for ringtones or P <keyword> for polytones and send to 2346. Ex. Text P sunrise to 2346 for *Sunrise* polytone.

Ringtone P15; Polytone P20

Valid in Metro Manila only. See flyers for details. Promo runs: Feb. 9-28, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0665 Series of 2005.

Get your Norah Ringback Tones!

Ringback Tone	Keyword
Come Away With Me	EA013
Don't Know Why	EA029
Feelin' The Same Way	EA305
Lonestar	EA312
Nightingale	EA316
Sunrise	EA035
Those Sweet Words	EA051
What Am I To You?	EA052

To download, text <keyword> to 2332.
Ex. Text EA035 to 2332 for *Sunrise* ringback tone.
To preview, text H <keyword> to 2332. You will receive a text message to call 2332.

P30 for 30 days/ ringback, P2.50/text
P5/min. for calls to 2332.

making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE

*See posters for details. Promo runs: Feb. 14-28, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0733 Series of 2005. For ticket inquiries, please call TicketNet at 911-5555 or ALV Productions at 633-8825. An ALV Events International production.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: NFL Pro Bowl; 8:30 a.m. (r-8:30 p.m.); ESPN—The NFC's best take on the AFC's finest in the island paradise of Hawaii.
BASKETBALL: NBA-Mavs vs Sonics; 9 a.m. (r-9 p.m.); Solar Sports—It's a western showdown as Dallas takes on Seattle.
TENNIS: ABN Amro World Tennis Tournament; tomorrow at 2:30 a.m.; STAR Sports—The first round kicks off in this global tennis tournament.
Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

SPORTS TV

Compiled by L. Mangulat

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2005

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

A25

SPORTS

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Text us your feedback: Inquirer sprt name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Sa tibay, hindi basta-basta bumibigay.

Jenny-Dorothy 5 shots behind

Japanese, Scottish pairs show way

GEORGE, South Africa—Japan and Scotland shared a one-stroke lead over Italy after Saturday's second round of the World Cup.

Playing alternate shot on a breezy afternoon, Catriona Matthew and Janice Moodie combined for a 4-under 69 with five birdies on the front nine. But the Scots dropped two shots on the back nine as the wind picked up.

Japanese teenager Ai Miyazato and teammate Rui Kitada shot a 1-under 72 after opening on Friday with a 68. The Japanese pair bogeyed the last two holes, dropping into a share of the lead on the links layout at the Fancourt Country Club Estate.

"With the strong wind and the difficult greens, it was a difficult afternoon," Miyazato said. "We wanted to make birdies on the par fives, but it just got more and more difficult."

Scotland's round was built on dogged consistency over the 6,424-yard course.

"We spent the day simply trying to hit the fairways and greens," Matthew said.

After opening with a 66, Italy's Diana Luna and Giulia Sergas slipped to a 75.

Lorie Kane and Dawn Coe-Jones of Canada, who shared the lead with Italy after the first round at 7-under, soared to a 79 to fall five off the lead at 145 with the Philippine team of Jennifer Rosales and Dorothy Delasin, who combined for a 77.

South Korea was two shots off the lead—a composite 142—after a 5-under 68. The Korean team of Jeong Jang and Bo Bae Song, first off in the morning, carded an eagle on the par-5 No. 5.

The American team of Meg Mallon and Beth Daniel, England's Laura Davies and Karen Stupples, and Australia's Karrie Webb and Rachel Hetherington were three off the lead.

The Americans and English shot 74s, and Australia had a 75.

"It's a very tough golf course with very difficult greens so we're pleased with 72 because foursomes (alternate shots) is never easy," said Miyazato. "We got off to a good start, and were two under through six holes, with birdies at the fourth and sixth holes. I think the key to a solid round today was both of us hitting some very good approach shots with our irons.

"We weren't too disappointed to finish with two bogeys. This course has plenty of trouble on it." *AP*

THE PHILIPPINES' Dorothy Delasin (right) and Jennifer Rosales celebrate after a birdie in the second round. AP

75° that's how hot your dashboard can get at noon
Making it the main source of heat inside your car!
Cut the heat with DASHIELD
Multi-layered dashboard cover with UV inhibitors
• 90% heat reduction on dashboard • guaranteed elegant & effective
• maximizes aircon efficiency • available for most car & van models
1013 EDSA (near Veterans Vill. entrance), Quezon City
Tel nos. 372-3640 • 372-2464 • 374-3636
PATENTED

WHAT KIND OF RIG DO YOU HAVE? WHAT WILL YOU USE IT FOR? DO YOU HAVE A BUDGET?
WARN MADE IN USA
TABOR 9K
BEST VALUE FOR ENTRY LEVEL WINCH
- 9000 Lbs capacity
- Automatic Brakes
- 100 ft of wire rope w/ hook and hook strap
- Low profile freespool actuator
- 3 stage planetary gearbrain
- Hand-held remote control w 12' lead
- Roller fairlead
- One year limited warranty
TABOR WINCH
MANUFACTURED BY WARN INDUSTRIES
RIDE 97 BANAWE ST, QUEZON CITY TEL.: 711-2127 • 711-2162
http://www.rideoffroad.com Email: info@rideoffroad.com

SHARK ACCESSORIES
NUDGE GEAR
WITH 20-PIECE ABS WRAP AROUND CLADDINGS
SHARK ROOF CADDY
SHARK CADDY MATE
SHARK REAR STEPGEAR
ABSOLUTELY NO-HOLES BORED INSTALLATION!
SHARK CLASSIC STEPBOARD
SURESTEP
1013A EDSA VETERAN'S VILLAGE, PROJ. 7, QUEZON CITY TEL.: 410-3067 / 65 • 372-3640
We deliver to or install at your home or office.(Metro Manila Only)

Ford
Ford Lynx Ghia.
Fabulous Features. Great Financing Deals!
Foglamps & Quad Projector Headlamps
Power Moonroof
Dual Airbags and 6-Disc CD Player
Leather Interior
4-Wheel Anti-lock Disc Brakes
Reverse Sensor
Now is the perfect time to get all these premium features in the best Lynx Ghia deal today.
EXCITING DEALS AVAILABLE FOR LYNX GSi.
Promo valid until February 28, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0525 Series of 2005.
www.ford.com.ph
ERA 24-HOUR EMERGENCY ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE
• Ford Alabang, Trunk Lines: 842-3681 / 842-4628; Fax No. 807-4430 • Ford Balintawak, Trunk Line: 927-9648, Fax No.: 927-5981 • Ford Commonwealth, Tel. Nos: 952-9118, 952-9441, 952-9446 Fax No.: 952-9440 • Ford EDSA, Tel No.: 744-2222; Fax No.: 723-6311 • Ford EDSA Service Center Tel No.: 723-7029
• Ford Libis, Trunk Line: 637-7044; Fax No.: 637-6008 • Ford Makati, Trunk Line 818-5555; Fax No.: 815-0513 • Ford Manila, Tel. No.: 562-5555 Fax No.: 562-8985 • Ford Quezon Avenue, Tel. Nos.: 731-2617 / 742-3435 / 742-3436 Fax: 742-3451 • Ford Shaw Blvd., Trunk Line: 717-0888, Telefax 717-1390
• Ford Pampanga, Trunk Line: (045) 961-2888; Fax Nos.: (045) 963-5205 / 961-2277 • Ford Cabanatuan, Tel. No.: (044) 464-0111; Fax No.: (044) 600-4200 • Ford Dagupan, Tel. No.: (075) 522-2222, Telefax (075) 515-5520 • Ford San Pablo, Tel. No.: (049) 562-9186, Telefax (049) 562-8324 • Ford Cavite, Tel. No.: (046) 472-2040; Fax: (046) 472-2048
• Ford Cebu, Trunk Line: (032) 231-9180; Fax No.: (032) 231-9023 • Ford Bacolod, Tel No.: (034) 432-2151, Telefax: (034) 434-2877 • Ford Iloilo, Tel. No: (033) 321-3352; Telefax No.: (033) 321-3351 • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Tel Nos.: (088) 855-8811; Telefax (088) 855-8877 • Ford Davao, Tel. No.: (082) 234-1111; Fax No.: (082) 234-2222

Congratulations, Ultron REV-X One Million WINNERS!

Weekly Winners:

Draw Date : Jan. 7, 2005

Joseph Marzan, Gen. Santos City Samsung E800 Cellphone	Brenda Laurio, Caloocan City 1Carton of 1L Petron Touring	
Donato O. Bautista, Nueva Ecija Samsung V50 Digital Camera	Reynaldo Manzillalo, Cabanatuan City 1Carton of 1L Petron Touring	
Jimmy H. Locsin Jr., Iloilo City Samsung HD936 DVD Player	Joucanir Isnade, Roxas City 1 Carton of 1L Petron REV- X	
Ramil Avergonza, Lucena City Magic Sing	Rodolfo Fernandez Jr. Cavite City 1 Carton of 1L Petron REV X	

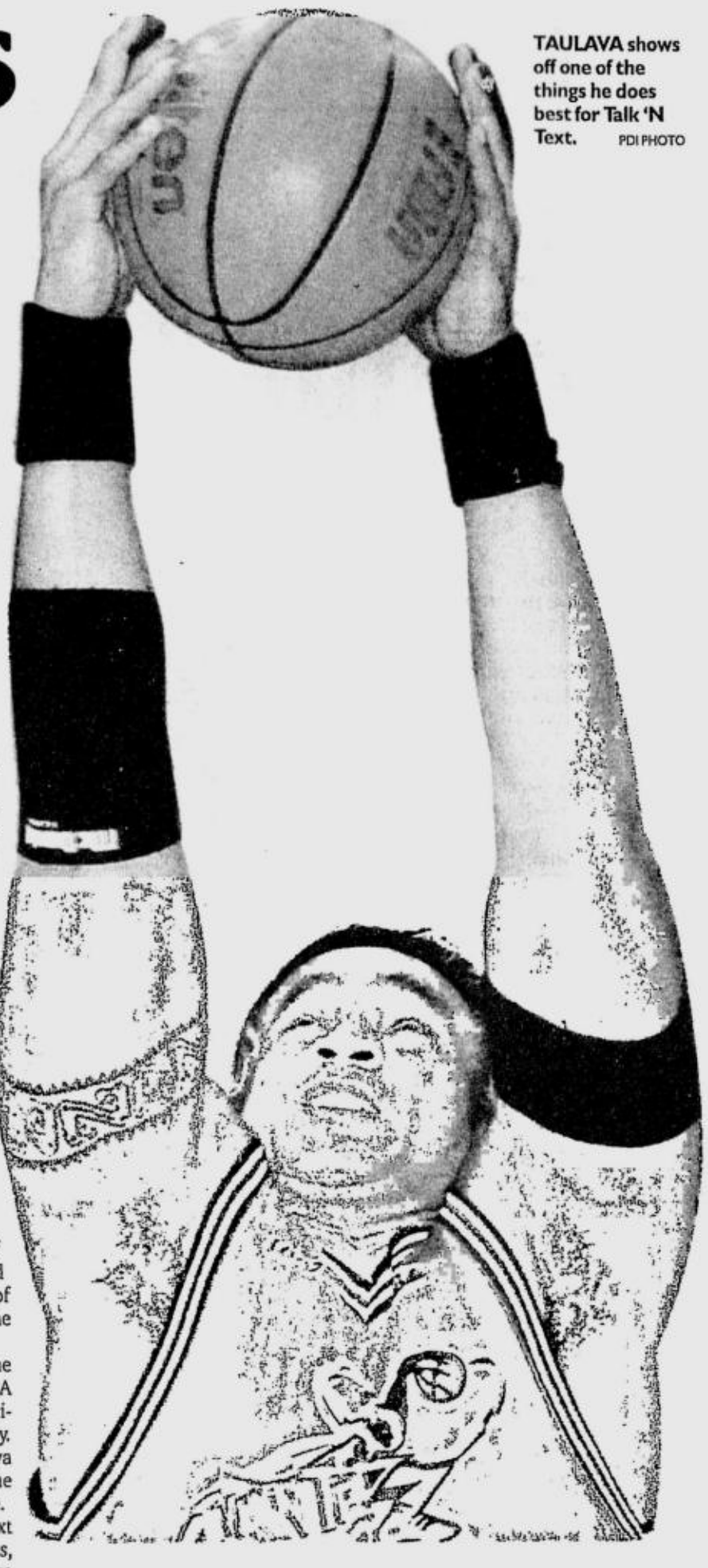
Draw Date : Jan. 14, 2005

Eliseo Carpio Jr., Malolos City Samsung E800 Cellphone	Cesar Ramirez, Lanao del Norte 1 Carton of 1L Petron Touring	
Antonio Samboan, Cagayan De Oro City Samsung V50 Digital Camera	Aurora Balena, Iloilo City 1 Carton of 1L Petron Touring	
Erwin Matas, Davao del Sur Samsung HD936 DVD Player	Vanessa Diane J. Gabonez, Misamis Occidental 1 Carton of 1 L Petron REV-X	
Vincent Miranda, Cavite Magic Sing	Elmar Binay, Oriental Mindoro 1 Carton of 1 L Petron REV-X	

Monthly Winner:
Erlinda Fenix ₱100, 000.00
Pag-asa St., Abongan,
Taytay, Palawan

Wag magpahuli, bumili ng Petron Ultron at Rev-X at baka kayo na ang susunod na manalo!

Eala draws more flak from TNT



TAULAVA shows off one of the things he does best for Talk 'N Text. PDI PHOTO

ALREADY under fire from a Quezon City court, Philippine Basketball Association commissioner Noli Eala found himself getting more flak from Talk 'N Text which accused him yesterday of being "unfair" in handling the Asi Taulava issue.

TNT alternate governor Al Panlilio said Eala has always maintained a hardline stance and worked to keep Taulava out of the recent Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup championship series won by the Barangay Ginebra Kings over the Phone Pals.

This was contrary to Eala's claim in published reports that he had allegedly tried to reach out to the TNT management in an effort to find a solution to the impasse over Taulava's playing rights in the pro league.

"Commissioner Eala's reference to our conversation as reconciliatory is not true and not appreciated," Panlilio said in a statement. "I am one with management and the team that the decisions of Eala have been unfair to Talk 'N Text."

Panlilio confirmed that he and Eala had indeed talked for 30 minutes last Friday—not an hour and half as reported—after the latter sought him out after the PBA board meeting.

But Panlilio said it was a private talk and not a "reconciliation" meeting as Eala had claimed. Eala was never conciliatory during their talk, he added.

"This does not speak well of his ethical and professional demeanor," Panlilio said.

Ricky Vargas, Talk 'N Text representative in the PBA board, also accused Eala of insincerity.

"Many times before the series, we tried to reach out to Eala but he says one thing and does another," Vargas complained.

Vargas said Talk 'N Text had been a victim of Eala's actions. "Eala has to answer for his performance as commissioner and take full responsibility for his actions," he said.

Vargas maintained that TNT made a supreme sacrifice for the benefit of the league and its fans when it decided not to field Taulava beginning in the second game of the Finals.

He said it did not compromise the team's position that Taulava is qualified to play, citing the ruling issued by Judge Rogelio Pizarro of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court Branch 222.

The PBA filed a motion for reconsideration but the court rejected the appeal last week.

"While we are open to any discussion, TNT management will continue to stand on the application of the rule of law and will not sacrifice or compromise our players' right to due process," Vargas said.

In denying the PBA appeal, Eala was given 10 days to explain why he should not be cited for contempt for refusing to obey an earlier court order for the PBA to lift Taulava's suspension.

The pro league earlier suspended Taulava indefinitely, along with five other foreign-born players, based on a Department of Justice ruling that the six had faked their citizenship documents following a Senate investigation last year.

After Pizarro ruled in favfor of Taulava's reinstatement, TNT fielded the Filipino-Tongan in the opener of the best-of-seven series which the Phone Pals won, 89-71.

Eala, however, forfeited that game in favor of the Kings after the PBA board upheld the commissioner's decision that Taulava was ineligible to play.

With TNT deciding to keep Taulava out of the title series starting in Game 2, the Kings went on to clinch the title.

Ginebra won Game 2, Talk 'N Text came back to take the next two games, before the Kings seized the next two matches to put their second straight championship away.

Eala was told to explain why he should not be cited for contempt after the Judge Pizarro dismissed the appeal filed by the PBA to reverse his earlier ruling on Feb. 11.

The PBA filed a motion for reconsideration after Pizarro ordered the league to lift the suspension of Taulava and resume the contractual obligations of the Talk 'N Text center with his mother ballclub.

"We have yet to receive a copy of the decision. But as soon as we get it, we will evaluate before making our next move," Eala had said, stressing that elevating the case to the Court of Appeals is a strong possibility.

Anticipating a protracted legal battle, Eala said the league has hired the services of former Sen. Rene Saguisag. "We've had two meetings with him and he has agreed to help the league in its legal cases," he said.

The Gin Kings had earlier captured the Fiesta Conference title at the expense of Red Bull Barako.

PBA set to renew ABC-5 contract

By June Navarro

SATISFIED with its coverage, the Philippine Basketball Association is set to renew its television partnership with ABC-5.

Although nothing has been finalized, a PBA board of governors insider confirmed that ABC-5's contract, which expires at the end of this month, would be extended for another conference.

PBA commissioner Noli Eala declined to confirm anything pending the final decision of the board but he praised the coverage of ABC-5.

EALA praises ABC-5.

"It has really upgraded the imaging, branding and marketing of the league," said Eala, referring to the network's coverage of the Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup won by Barangay Ginebra.

"We are working out things with our present coveror and hopefully the job that ABC-5 has done for the PBA can continue."

Certain first crack

Although the PBA has opened the door for other aspiring television networks and outfits to come in, Eala hinted that ABC-5 would certainly get the first crack.

"Everybody's welcome, but right now we have to take what's on the table, he said. "We will evaluate what we have at the moment with enthusiasm and optimism."

Since ABC-5 took over from the NBN-IBC consortium before the Fiesta Cup last conference, marked improvements were visibly seen with the coverage. PBA insiders said this has brought back fan interest in the games.

NBA-inspired coverage

In the Finals, ABC-5 introduced an NBA-inspired program by installing more state-of-the-art graphics coupled with in-depth analysis never before seen in a PBA championship series.

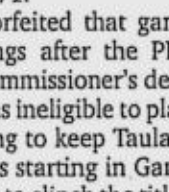
"We are happy to accomplish what we intended to do in improving the coverage," said ABC-5 marketing services manager Winston de la Cruz. "Hopefully, we can continue contributing to the success of the PBA in the coming conferences."

League sources said Game 6 of the Finals was a smashing success as far as gate attendance, TV ratings and advertising sales are concerned.

ABC-5 sports director Sienna Olaso said the PBA still managed to sell 35 minutes of advertisement spots, including two minutes of airtime when the game was already in progress.

Helping correct Red Smith

BARE EYE



Recah Trinidad

MAX Schmeling who, together with the immortal Joe Louis had figured in an unforgettable world heavyweight boxing rivalry, did not live to be a hundred. He passed away at 99 last week.

The guy missed the century mark by a point.

But it would be silly to say he did not go the full route.

Ironically, what would make Schmeling a memorable ring figure was the night he failed to beat the count in a return encounter with Louis.

The great Red Smith, a Manila visitor in 1975, had written that, in 1936, Schmeling, "the German Nazi apostle of white Aryan supremacy, had knocked out Louis, the Brown Bomber from Detroit, in the 12th round of their first fight at the Yankee Stadium."

A golden chronicle of the Louis-Schmeling return encounter two years later, done from ringside by the great Bob Considine, forms part of Press Box: Red Smith's favorite sports stories.

***

We pulled back the yellowed Red Smith reader from the dusty shelf in an effort to set the record straight.

Well, it's easy to believe Mr. Smith had thought he was being factual when he called Schmeling "the Nazi apostle of Aryan supremacy."

What would surface later though was the fact that Schmeling was not a willing agent of abominable Nazism.

In fact, Time Magazine, in its Milestone section this week, noted that Schmeling, "the first European to win the world title in 1930, "BECAME A RELUCTANT SYMBOL OF NAZI MIGHT in the years leading up to World War II."

Time sustained its defense of Schmeling against unfair labeling with other heartwarming details.

But, to retrace the faded details of that memorable return bout at Yankee Stadium on June 22, 1938, let's call in Mr. Considine (with the "utter shock of watching Louis knock out Schmeling"):

***

"It was a shocking thing, that knockout —short, sharp, merciless, complete. Louis was like this:

"He was a big lean copper spring, tightened and retightened through weeks of training until he was one pregnant package of coiled venom.

"Schmeling hit that spring. He hit it with a whistling right-hand punch in the first minute of the fight—and the spring, tormented with tension, suddenly burst with one brazen spang of activity. Hard brown arms, propelling two unerring fists, blurred beneath the hot white candelabra of the ring lights. And Schmeling was in the path of them, a man caught and mangled in the whirring claws of a mad feverish machine."

Some staid copy editors could today accuse Mr. Considine of having resorted to excess in his classic ringside piece.

But what needs thorough editing here was the mangling Schmeling had suffered in the hands of Red Smith when he called the great German athlete a Hitler apostle.

***

Here's Time (Feb. 14, 2005) on Schmeling: "He was miscast by Hitler as an Aryan superhero. Schmeling, whose loss in a rematch with Louis became emblematic of the coming struggle with Germany, refused to join the Nazi Party and after the war, it was disclosed he had saved two Jews from attack in the Krisallnacht violence of 1938. A quiet philanthropist, he befriended Louis later in life."

Hope that helps fan fonder, more honest memories of Max Schmeling.

Anyway, we had been told that, unlike Schmeling, Louis died penniless.

In the end, it was the Brown Bomber who had to absorb a merciless knockout.

Time had a defining conclusion to its defense of the miscast German.

It reported that Schmeling paid for "the impoverished former champ's 1981 funeral."

***

(UNFAIR: Teddy M. Reynoso sent in two letters while we were on emergency leave. He wanted to elevate the case of Filipino Ceferino Garcia, former world middleweight boxing champion: "It was reported that controversial Marcel Thil will be inducted to the International Boxing Hall of Fame alongside Lope 'Papa' Sarreal in June, while the more famous Ceferino Garcia has remained ignored. This smacks of unfairness. Garcia won the world crown by knocking out American Fred Apostoli, who had conquered Thil. Garcia defended his title twice, including a draw with all-time great Henry Armstrong, thereby frustrating the latter's quest for a fourth world title in four different divisions. Garcia originated the bolo punch, later adopted and made more famous by Cuban welterweight great Kid Gavilan. Garcia was among the first Filipino and Asian boxers to barnstorm the more competitive US ring, battling many of the best American, European and Latin fighters of the time. Thil, on the other hand, won his title from American Gorilla Jones by questionable disqualification in Paris. The first time he ventured out of Europe, he lost his crown to Apostoli by KO and retired without fighting again.")

Extra-sharp Lining leads show of rated billiards bets

ANTONIO "Nickoy" Lining banked on a solid breaking game to beat Allan Soliman, 7-2, yesterday at the start of the Hope P1-million All-Filipino Billiard Open qualifying phase at the Bowling Inn and Billiards Center on Taft Avenue, Manila.

After winning the lag, Lining scored three straight runouts to put the pressure on his little-known opponent. He clinched the match by winning three more successive racks.

Also hurdling their matches were the favored Dennis Orcullo, Jeffrey de Luna, Boy Ducanes, Roberto Gomez, Robert Dy and Victor Arpilleda.

Orcullo downed Jun Salazar, 7-6, De Luna beat Jerome Penia, 7-3, Ducanes defeated Andy Tolentino, 7-4, Gomez thrashed Eduardo Reyes, 7-3, and Arpilleda edged Troy Danao, 7-5.

There were also upsets.

Unheralded Alex Lumpay trounced Venancio Tanio, the former national player and Mika Immonen's conqueror in On Cue-II, 7-2, while Leonardo Didal blanked Russian Petiza, 7-0.

The upset-conscious Soliman threatened at 3-4 after Lining's blunder in the sixth frame. But Soliman scratched the cue ball on the eighth rack and helplessly watched his veteran rival run out the next three racks for the win.

The tournament, dubbed as Best of the Best All-Filipino Open sponsored by Hope and Smart, is organized by Puyat Sports boss Aristeo "Putch"

ANTONIO Lining in hot start PDI PHOTO

Puyat and Jemah Television president Mark Roces and tournament director Rolly Vicente.

The top eight finishers in the three-day elimination will join the seeded players in the Final 16 of the event on Feb. 21-27.

The eight seeded players are Efren "Bata" Reyes, Francisco "Django" Bustamante, Alex Pagulayan, Warren Kiamco, Marlon Manalo, Lee Vann Corteza, Rodolfo Luat and Leonardo Andam. *Marlon Bernardino, Contributor*

Quiñones, Barnachea triumph

TAGAYTAY CITY—Eusebio Quiñones justified his title as the best mountain biker in the country and Santy Barnachea sent a strong message about his condition this year as both veterans ruled Saturday's Pista ng Pag-ibig Cycling Races here.

Quiñones, the 2003 Vietnam SEA Games cross country gold medal winner, clocked one hour, 18 minutes and 20.92 seconds to win the 40.5-km Tagaytay MTB Challenge.

Barnachea, a Navyman like Quiñones and the 2002 FedEx Express Tour champion, ruled the short but grueling 64.5-km massed start road race, beating a star-studded field stretched to the limit by the tough climb in nearby Talisay town to the Palace in the Sky finish to clock 2:01:25.16.

Both races were part of several sports events Mayor Abraham "Bambol" Tolentino organized in connection with Tagaytay City's three-day Pista ng Pag-ibig festivities.

Members of the national team and training pool and qualifiers to this summer's Tour Pilipinas answered the starting gun Tolentino fired at the city hall for the race that covered part of the route recommended for this November's 23rd Southeast Asian Games.

Quiñones received P10,000 and a giant trophy from Tolentino, while Barnachea brought home P15,000 and also a beautifully crafted trophy.

MALARAYAT UPSET

Lina ends Jayvie's streak

LIPA CITY—In a monumental upset, former national player Lina de Guzman fired a one-under-par 71 yesterday to deny the fancied Jayvie Agojo the Ladies Class A crown of the Samsung Amateur Tour national grand finals at the Mt. Malarayat Golf and Country Club in Lipa, Batangas.

DRIVING range attendant Lina de Guzman (left) holds off newly crowned RP Ladies Open champ Jayvie Agojo in the last five holes of the Mt. Makulot nine with a one-under card. PDI PHOTO

De Guzman played the last five holes of the Mt. Makulot nine at one under on two birdies, a bogey and two pars to secure a three-stroke win over the newly crowned Philippine Ladies Open champion Agojo.

The 43-year-old De Guzman, a driving range attendant at the Canlubang Golf and Country Club, wound up with a two-day aggregate of 148 after Saturday's five-over 77 that left her five shots behind the 18-year-old Agojo.

Agojo, shooting an even-par 72 in the first round, had it all for the taking and even led by six when De Guzman bogeyed the first hole.

But Jayvie reeled back with two bogeys in the final five-hole stretch and collapsed with a seven-over 79 to wind up at 151 in the tourney also sponsored by Tokyo Tokyo, Gatorade, adidas Taylor Made, KZG by Custom Clubmakers, Pink Patio Boracay, Coppertone Sport, Rogin-E and Philippine Airlines as the official carrier. Malarayat Inn is the official hotel. Killer-Bee, Jam 88.3, Wave 89.1, Magic 89.9, 99.5 RT and 103.5 K-Lite are media partners.

Cyna Rodriguez nipped Paulina Sotto on the second extra hole of a sudden-death playoff for the Class B plum while Mi Jung Yoon scored a 95-187 to beat Mereane Siason by two for the Class C trophy.

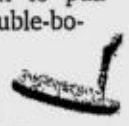
For their feats, De Guzman, Rodriguez and Siason each won trophies and a unit of X120 Samsung cellular phone.

"I'm so happy because this is my first win on the Samsung Tour. I played well and Jayvie's putting and iron play didn't click," said De Guzman, a former SEA Games bronze medalist, in Filipino.

Carmelette Villaroman likewise fell short of her own rally bid after she double-bogeyed the 17th hole. She carded a 75 and settled for third place at 152.

Players in the 72-hole championship division battle also played their first rounds yesterday. The competitors in the four handicap divisions of the men's category plunge into action on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Agojo, gunning for a third consecutive win including the recent Faldo Series in Hong Kong, still led by two at the turn but allowed De Guzman to pull even when she double-bogeyed the 12th.



Bad iron play and several putting miscues pulled down Agojo who suffered a bad break when her ball disappeared in the bunker on the 16th for a penalty that left her with a bogey.

Dress up your 2005
BUY FACTORY PRICE
REVO • ADVENTURE • CROSSWIND
CRV • EVEREST • JIMNY • SUV • VANS • PICK-UPS
MOST COMPLETE ACCESSORIES FOR A.U.V.
NOW AVAILABLE 2005 ACCESSORIES FOR CRV • VITARA • RAV 4 EVEREST • PAJERO • PRADO OUTLANDER • ESCAPE D-MAX
ISUZU CROSSWIND
X.U.V. Look BODYKIT
CONVERSION PACKAGE DEAL P40,000
(WE CONVERT YOUR XL, XT, X10 INTO SUV)
TOYOTA REVO VX 200 & SR CONVERSION PACKAGE DEAL P18,000.00
PACKAGE DEAL!!!
WRAP AROUND STAINLESS BULL BARS P 17,000 only
(FRONT, SIDE, REAR)
WE ACCEPT MADE TO ORDER CUSTOMIZE BULLBARS, BULLBAR REPAIR TO SUIT YOUR STYLE
WE WILL BEAT
KI JANG
PASAR MOBIL ACCESSORIES
7228085 • 413-8060/77
WE ACCEPT PROVINCIAL SERVICES & DELIVERIES

Morales: It will be Pacquiao's left against my right

IT WILL be A "battle of styles.

Mexican star Erik "El Terrible" Morales declared this yesterday even as he exuded confidence he has perfected a plan to beat Filipino hero Manny Pacquiao on March 19 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

"I trust the power of my fists. Pacquiao is a boxer of great power, but I can also conquer him. I have delineated a fight plan and hope to obtain victory," said Morales in an interview with Mexican boxing writer Ernesto Castellanos.

MORALES: Confident

Morales, who is training at the high-altitude Otomi Mountains, added he has already studied fight tapes of Pacquiao and concedes that the Filipino fighter is a very dangerous opponent.

"I am going to look for opening to take advantage of his style. This is going to be a duel of his left hand against my right hand. I hope that it is my fist that prevails in the end," Morales added.

Pacquiao is a southpaw while Morales is a righthander. They will be fighting in the 130-lb junior lightweight category.

"The world knows about his tremendous victories by knockout but also I have observed that his defeats have been by knockout. Pacquiao is a boxer who fights to knock out or be knocked out. It is possible that he can be beaten, even by account of his stamina,"he said.

After taking care of Pacquiao, Morales said he would move up in weight and fight in the 135-lb (lightweight) category in the next two years or more.

Aside from his own career, Morales said he is busy and satisfied with the conditions of his contract with Top Rank promoter Bob Arum.

Morales is the promoter of such boxers as Jose Antonio Aguirre, Jorge "Travieso" Arce, "Barrio" Meza, Manuel Vargas, "Pelucho" Morales, Jackie Nava, and many more.

The Mexican star said he has just finished signing a contract with the North American television company Fox Sports, to make a monthly event that will be called "Aztec Soldiers."

Also in Morales' immediate plan is marriage to long-time girlfriend Andrea Mora.

Salven L. Lagumbay, Contributor

Watch out for the
eTELECARE
CUP
PHILIPPINE BADMINTON ASSOCIATION
eTelecare Collegiate and Alumni
Invitational Badminton Cup 2005
The very first collegiate and alumni badminton tournament organized by the World's Most Awarded and Largest Asia-Based Call Center will smash your way in March.
Eliminations: March 5 & 6 at Club 650, Libis, Quezon City
Semi-finals &Finals: March 13 at Power Smash
Chino Roces Ave., Makati City

St. Stephen, Xavier title clash on

DEFENDING champion St. Stephen High School and Xavier School start their best-of-three championship series for the 29th Hitachi-Metro Manila Tiong Lian Basketball League title today at the Chiang Kai Shek Gym.

Game time is set at 6 p.m.

St. Stephen scored an overpowering 88-64 victory over host Chiang Kai Shek College, 88-64, while Xavier bounced back in the final quarter to turn back UNO High School, 79-72, to arrange another title showdown in the tourney sponsored by Hitachi and supported by And1, Hang Ten, Healthy Options and Davies Paints.

Kish Co and Cliff Aparacio keyed St. Stephen's finals entry with double-double performances.

Co shot a game-high 23 points on top of 10 rebounds while Aparacio added 15 points and 10 boards.

St. Stephen held its rival to just seven points in the second period to pull away, 50-24.

India salutes its first female WTA winner

BOMBAY—Indian tennis fans are still celebrating after teenager Sania Mirza became the nation's first female winner of a WTA Tour singles event on Saturday.

The unseeded 18-year-old, ranked 134th in the world, won the Hyderabad Open in front of a delirious home crowd when she defeated ninth seed Alyona Bondarenko of Ukraine 6-4 5-7 6-3.

"Simply Superb, Sania," said a headline in the Hindustan Times daily on Sunday, while The Times of India splashed a big picture of Mirza with the heading: "Mirzaah! She's Magic."

Fans danced on the streets in the southern Indian city of Hyderabad on Saturday night in a country where such sporting reactions are normally reserved only for cricket.

"You've turned us from cricket to tennis," said one banner.

Mirza's victory is being hailed as a giant leap forward for women's tennis in India.

"Unlike the men, women's tennis in India lacks history and Sania has revolutionized it," said the country's finest tennis player Ramanathan Krishnan, who reached the Wimbledon semi-finals in 1960 and 1961.

"It's too early to say what she is likely to achieve. It would be great to see her reach the pinnacle of women's tennis." *Reuters*

New York hosts key Olympics meeting

NEW YORK—Mayor Michael Bloomberg has made a habit of combining his personal charm and enormous wealth to advocate for his city, and now he and his private-sector friends intend to impress the International Olympic Committee.

On the evening of Feb. 23, the 13 IOC officials evaluating the city's bid to host the 2012 Games will be ushered from their suites at the Plaza Hotel—where they will have views of Central Park festooned with 7,500 saffron-colored, banner-waving "Gates" assembled by artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude—to horse-drawn carriages.

The carriages will take them to Bloomberg's Upper East Side townhouse for dinner and drinks.

The tab for the evening will be picked up by NYC2012, the organizing committee leading the city's bid.

IOC rules, tightened after the scandal over Salt Lake City's bid for the 2002 Winter Olympics, forbid candidate cities and their backers from giving IOC members gifts and prohibit most direct lobbying. *AP*

Hot Iverson's career-best 60 zaps Magic

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania—Allen Iverson finished with a career- and NBA season-high 60 points as the Philadelphia 76ers posted a 112-99 triumph over Orlando on Saturday.

Tracy McGrady was the last National Basketball Association player to score at least 60 points in a games, recording 62 for Orlando against Washington in March.

Iverson became the 18th different player to score 60 points in a game.

"I've never witnessed a performance like this," Philadelphia coach Jim O'Brien said.

"I think we are witnessing one of the great careers in the NBA, put on by one of the most talented, tough and big-hearted guys that you'll ever see on the basketball court.

"I think we should all enjoy this while Allen is still in the NBA. I sure am enjoying coaching him." The Magic lost for the 14th time in 17 road games.

A three-time scoring champ who entered this one leading the league at 29 points per game, including two with at least 50, Iverson staked the 76ers to a 31-22 edge after one quarter.

He added 12 points in the second period to help open a 62-44 cushion at the break.

"I just felt that I was in real good rhythm," Iverson said. "The craziest thing about it, it wasn't a jump-shooting rhythm.

"It was just constantly attacking all night long. That's what I did and I guess that's why I went to the free-throw line as much as I did.

"I didn't settle for jump shots," Iverson said. "[Orlando] decided to play me one-on-one during the game and I just made them pay for it.

"I asked them, 'When are you going to trap me?' and they had a blank look on their faces and didn't answer. I assumed that they didn't know what to do at that point."

Iverson, who made 17-of-36 shots and 24-of-27 free throws, reached 50 points when he sank the first of a pair of free throws with 5:27 left.

"It feels good right now," Iverson said. "Just knowing that we won the basketball game is the most important thing. I scored a career high and we won the game, that's how you draw it up in your dreams."

Pistons 107, Wizards 86

In Auburn, Michigan, Chauncey Billups scored 21 points to help Detroit snap Washington's four-game winning streak.

Richard Hamilton added 20 points and eight assists, and Tayshaun Prince scored 16 points and matched a career high with seven assists.

Gilbert Arenas led Washington with 24 points.

Bucks 113, Hawks 83

In Milwaukee, Desmond Mason scored 23 points, and Mike James added 18 to help Milwaukee win for the third straight time and hand Atlanta its 14th straight road loss.

Michael Redd, Milwaukee's leading scorer, saw his 212-game playing streak end when he sat out because of a sprained left index finger, which he hurt while going for a rebound in the closing seconds Wednesday night in Toronto.

FIERY Sixers guard Allen Iverson (right) waxes

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
(Republic of the Philippines)
TANGGAPAN NG PANGULO
(Office of the President)
TANGGAPAN NG SWEEPSTAKES PANGKAWANGGAWA NG PILIPINAS
PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE
PCSO Complex, E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Q.C. Philippines P.O. Box 141

OFFICE OF THE BAC-ITR
INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO RE-BID
APPROVED BUDGET CONTRACT: Php 13,600,000.00

1. The Government of the Philippines through the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) invites interested suppliers/contractors classified by, and registered with the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) with License Category C (Electrical) or higher to re-bid for the Installation/Delivery of Module I, PCSO Information Technology Network Infrastructure (ITNI) Project.
2. The schedule of activities is as follows:

2.1 Issuance of Eligibility Forms	Feb. 9-16, 2005	BAC Room, Annex II Bldg.
2.2 Submission of Eligibility Requirements	Until 5:00 P.M. of Feb. 18, 2005	BAC Room, Annex II Bldg.
2.3 Notice of Eligible/Ineligible Bidders	Mar. 4, 2005	
2.4 Issuance of Bid Documents to Eligible Bidders	Mar. 4 - 17, 2005	BAC Room, Annex II Bldg.
2.5 Pre-Bid Conference	Mar. 22, 2005, 10 A.M.	Exec. Lounge, 4/F Main Bldg.
2.6 Submission of Bid Documents	On or before 10:00 A.M. of Apr. 4, 2005	Exec. Lounge, 4/F Main Bldg.
2.7 Opening of Bids	Apr. 4, 2005, 10:30 A.M.	Exec. Lounge 4/F Main Bldg.

3. The Eligibility Forms may be secured from the office stated above upon payment of a non-refundable amount of five hundred pesos (P500.00).
4. Instruction to Bidders/Terms of Reference/Financial Bid Forms, are available from March 4-17, 2005 and shall be issued to prospective bidders after payment of a non-refundable fee of four thousand five hundred pesos (Php 4,500.00).
5. Every Prospective Bidder must, among the qualifications set forth by RA 9184 and its IRR, be a Systems Integrator certified by an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) of end-to-end premises cabling solution and with at least five (5) years experience in the same industry, to install/deliver all the following components:
   - 5.1 Access Raised Floor System for Server Room
   - 5.2 Technical Furniture and Partitions for MIS Data Center
   - 5.3 Structured Cabling and Components, Rack Enclosure System, and Cabling Containment for MIS Data Center
   - 5.4 Security Access Control System for Server Room and MIS Office Entrance
   - 5.5 Dehumidifier for Server Room
   - 5.6 Fire Suppression System for Server Room
   - 5.7 Electrical System for MIS Data Center
   - 5.8 Network Application Servers and Workstations and UPS for MIS Data Center
6. Submission and Opening of Bids: Two (2) sealed envelopes with name and address of the bidders on the left band margin addressed to the Chairman of the PCSO BAC-ITR marked with **"Do not open until April 4, 2005."**
   - 6.1 The sealed envelopes shall be submitted to the BAC Secretariat on or before 10.00 a.m. of April 4, 2005
   - 6.2 Opening of Bids shall be on April 4, 2005 at 10:30 a.m.
7. Post-Qualification: Presentation of the original documents and actual unit/s are required for verification purposes.
8. Applicable Rules and Regulations:
   - 8.1 Republic Act 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) pertaining to evaluation of bids, post-qualification and award of contract shall govern the bid activities.
   - 8.2 The PCSO reserves the right to reject any or all bids and/or part thereof declare a failure of bidding or not to award the contract and to accept the offer most advantageous to the government.
   - 8.3 The PCSO assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidder/s for any expense or loss incurred in the preparation and submission of the eligibility requirements and bid, and it does not guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) ROSARIO C. URIARTE
General Manager

(PDI – February 9 & 14, 2005)

Thank you for being a good neighbor.

From December 7,2004 to January 4, 2005, **Operation Sagip Buhay** was able to give 26,947 family food packs estimated at least P6.7M to 10,874 families in the 35 affected barangays in Infanta, Quezon. Twenty eight barangays are on the third round of food assistance. Food relief distribution is ongoing to date. Over 2,150 families benefited from medical assistance, and 60 persons were given anti-tetanus injection. .

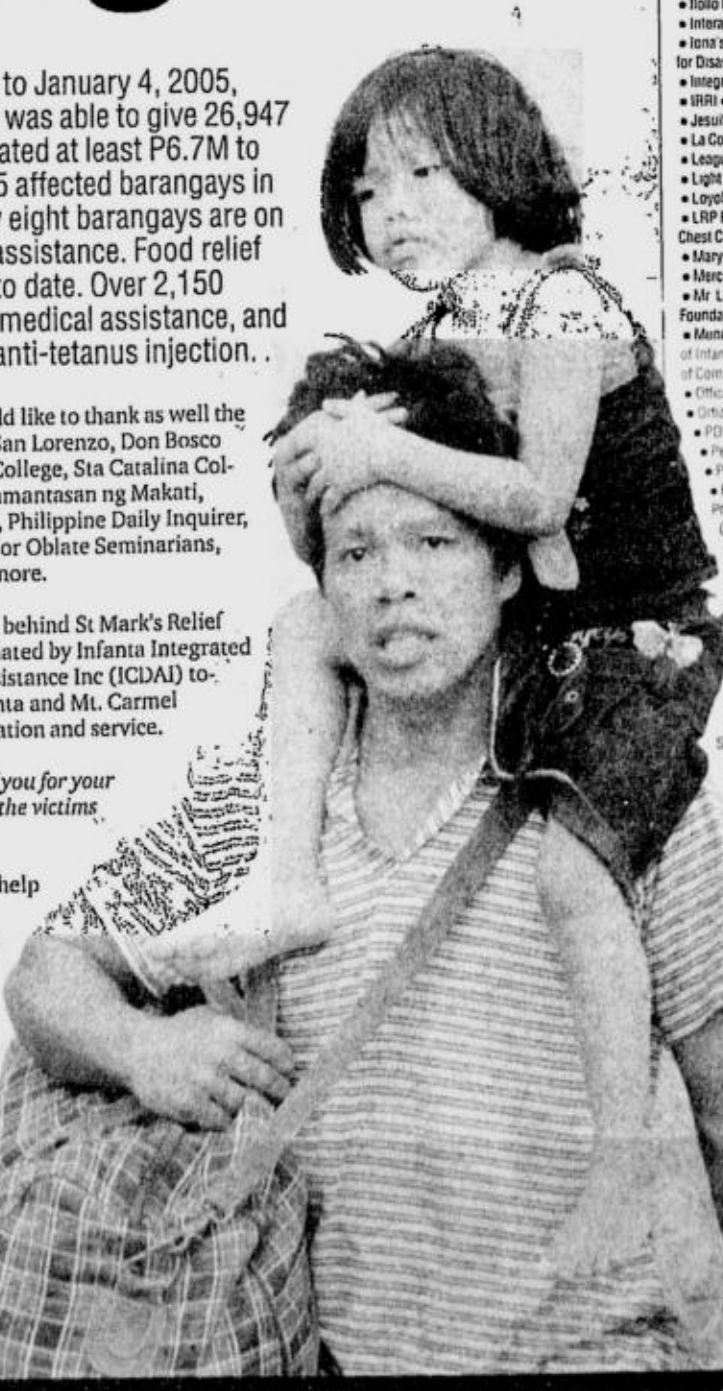
Operation Sagip Buhay would like to thank as well the volunteers from Assumption San Lorenzo, Don Bosco Mandaluyong, La Concordia College, Sta Catalina College, Villamor High School, Pamantasan ng Makati, Hands On Manila Foundation, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PETA, Franciscan Sisters, Junior Oblate Seminarians, Sisters of the Poor and many more.

Special thanks to the people behind St Mark's Relief Coordinating Council coordinated by Infanta Integrated Community Development Assistance Inc (ICDAI) together with the Parish of Infanta and Mt. Carmel School for their selfless dedication and service.

May God reward each one of you for your generosity and solidarity with the victims of disaster.

Let us continue to pray and help displaced peoples wherever they are including our South Asian brothers and sisters devastated by the tsunamis.

It is in the worst of times that genuine human compassion comes out in all persons of goodwill.



For making this possible and more, we are grateful to the following partners and friends of the Sagip Buhay Infanta Network who generously contributed cash (PhP4M), relief goods, human resource, and logistical support:

• Absolute S... • AFP-Philc... • Alabang M... • Alay Buha... • M... Pangkalusug... • Development ... • Arrow Fre... • Assisi Dev... Foundation • A... • Ateneo de M... • Avon • Ca... Aklan Facult... • Caravan T... • Children ... • Citibank • ... • Consuelo ... • Contret R... • Corporate ... Response • ... • De La Sal... • DSWD • DO... • Don Bosco School Mandaluyong • Dugsong Buhay of the Prelature of Infanta • EPIXTAR • Far Eastern University • Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry • First Choice Food Corporation • HEKS • Highlands Prime • Hizon Laboratories Management and Employees • Hotel Sogo • Iloilo Federation of Rural Bankers • Interadent Pasco Doctors • Iona's Restaurant • Institute for Disaster Risk Management • Integrated Micro Electronics • IRRI • UP Los Banos • Jesuit Communication Foundation • La Consolacion College Manila • League of Corporate Foundations • Light of Jesus Community • Loyola House of Studies • LRP Foundation • Lucena Provincial Chest Center • Manila Water • Mary the Queen Parish • Mercury Freight Holdings • Mr. Leo Deocadiz • Mirant Philippines Foundation • Ms. Wilma Domingo • Municipal Government of Infanta • Natrapharm Group of Companies • NDCC • Office of the Solicitor General • Ortiz Family • PAKEF Rose Hill School • PDIEU Multi-Purpose Cooperative • Petron Foundation • Philippine Daily Inquirer • Philo Medica Scientia Female Physicians • Pilipinas KAO/Abcotz Group Foundation • Povada Learning Center Parents' Association • PAFID • Quezon Memorial Hospital Medical Staff Organization • Resins Inc. • RI Chemical Corporation • Sacred Heart of Jesus Dasmarinas, Cavite • SK Councils of Bel Air, Dasmarinas, Magallanes, Forbes, San Lorenzo and Urdaneta Villages, Makati City • Schering Philippine Corp. • Smart Communications • Sto Cristo Parish, Manalas, Valenzuela • St James the Great Parish • South Bay Homeowners Association • Tabang Mindanaw • Tanggol Kalikasan • Thanium Corporation • Tze Chi Foundation PSRC Mandaluyong • UNDP • Unilab Philippines • United Paranaque Homeowners Association • UPCD-SC

and many other selfless individuals and organizations.

As Operation Sagip Buhay moves on to rehabilitation work, individuals and organizations who still wish to donate may get in touch with the Catholic Media Network Office at tel. nos. 5637321, 5637313, 5644480 Email: sagipbuhay@yahoo.com

T'wolv...

MINNEAPOLIS—The Minn... wolves fired coach Flip Sau... nday after the National Bas... ciation club started lastw... ing.

The Timberwolves are t... dem of operations Kevin Mc... im coach.

One of the NBA's top ... McHale joined the Timberwo... and assumed his current ro...

Mickel... Singh ...

TORONTO—Another day ... record for Phil Mickelson ... number four stormed into a ... lead with a sizzling five-un... third round of the Pebble Be... Pro-Am on Saturday.

The left-hander has been ... ing form on California's Mo... sula, scorching all three co... the $5.3 million event to ... Masters champion a 54-hol... record total of 20-under 196...

World number one an... champion Vijay Singh of Fiji ... a one-over 73 for the third ... day to miss the cut for the ... more than a year, stretching ... 2004 Buick Invitational.

Britain's Greg Owen ea... the Poppy Hills Golf Club ... and move into second place ...

Spain's Jose Maria Olazab... of South Africa and Andrew ... Sutherland and Paul Goyd... strokes adrift of the leader o...

Mike Weir, the 2003 US M... pion, began the day four b... son but the Canadian left-h... a one-over 73 at Spyglass ... tied with Britain's Darren ... Sluman and Arron Oberhol... der 206.

Japanes...

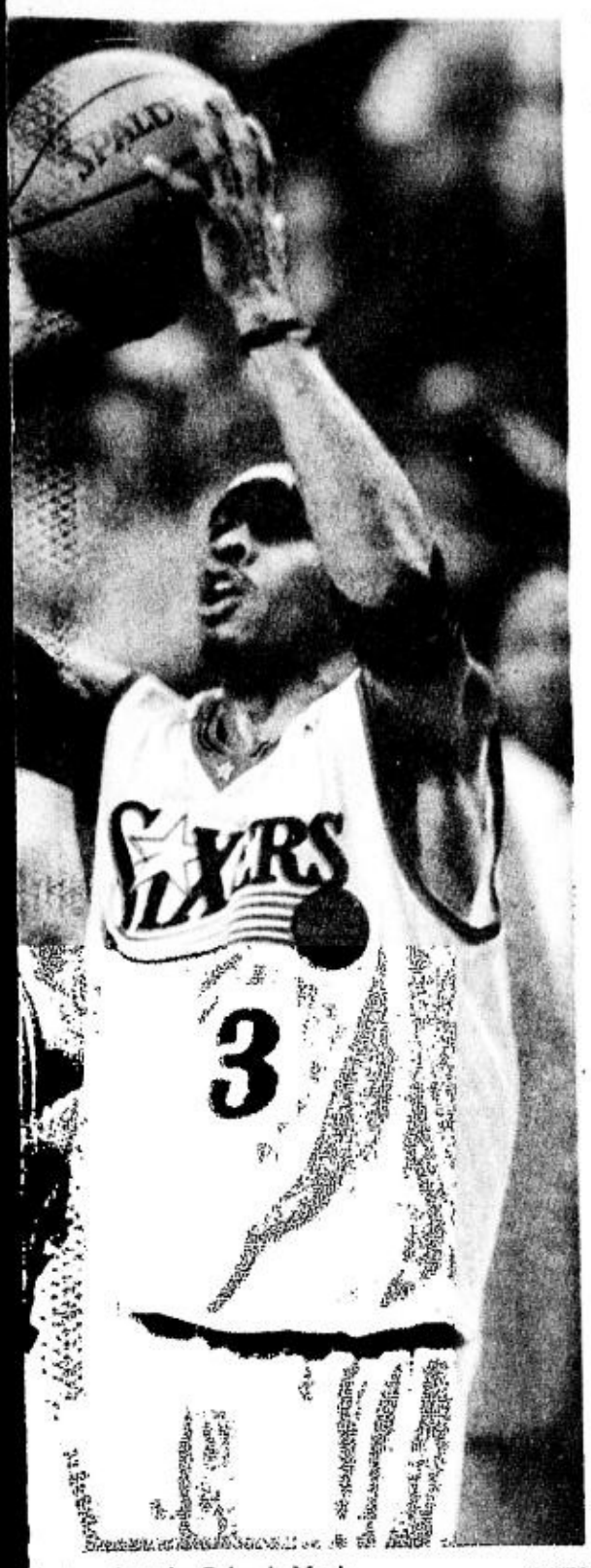
GEORGE, South Africa—Ja... Miyazato is a giggling teen... youngest ever to win on th... GA Tour.

Her next goal is to play i... States.

Miyazato is a superstar i... she has captured public att... the same way that 15-year... American Michelle Wie ha... America.

"The spectators are very ... she said Saturday, after tea... ner Rui Kitada for a share o... Scodand after two rounds...

BEST COPY AVAILABLE


hot against the Orlando Magic. REUTERS

Roddick overcomes Haas, looks a cinch to keep title

SAN JOSE, California—Top seed Andy Roddick moved a step closer to a successful defense of his title when he beat Germany's Tommy Haas 7-6 6-3 on Saturday to reach the final of the $380,000 San Jose Open.

The American now meets the unseeded Cyril Saulnier of France, who went through to his first ATP final after upsetting seventh-seeded Austrian Jurgen Melzer 6-7 6-3 6-3.

World number three Roddick has struggled all week with his consistency but looked solid against third seed Haas.

"I feel good to have a chance to play for the title," Roddick told reporters. "It's never a bad thing." Roddick, who nearly blew a 6-0 lead in a tiebreak against Swede Thomas Enqvist in the quarter-finals, hit a stream of winners to take the last four points of the first set tiebreak against Haas.

"I was still thinking about the chances I had to break in the sixth game," said Haas.

"It's extremely frustrating when you have chances against a top-five player and don't do anything with them. I rushed a few backhands and he took advantage." Haas broke Roddick to open the second set but was broken straight back when he missed a forehand.

Taking chances on the German's second serve, Roddick then broke Haas again to lead 4-2.

In the final game, the American saved two break points with a forehand winner and an ace before clinching victory with a service winner.

"I was feeling horrible earlier in the week," Roddick said.

"I thought tonight was another step in the right direction.

"The more you play, you give yourself a chance to improve.

On my returns, I was standing in more and I'm getting a little more depth, even if I don't hit a perfect return." Haas was bothered by a bad back that has plagued him all week and was unable to serve with his normal force. But he would not offer that as a reason for his defeat.

"He served extremely well and played the big points better than I did," Haas said.

Earlier, Saulnier kept his cool while Melzer frequently blew his top over line calls.

The Austrian also twisted his left ankle in the second game of the second set.

"I'm very happy," said Saulnier, who will move into the world's top 50 for the first time. "It's taken a lot of work and a lot of fighting in my mind.

"Sometimes I didn't believe I could get to a final and now I am here. I've stayed mentally strong." *Reuters*

RODDICK: Second chance

Mauresmo, Safina forge Paris showdown

PARIS—France's Amelie Mauresmo and unseeded Russian teenager Dinara Safina set up a rematch after advancing to the final of the 585,000-dollar Paris Indoor Open here on Saturday.

Mauresmo, the 2001 champion and second seed, eased past fourth seeded Russian Nadia Petrova 7-5, 6-3 in 1hr 51min as Safina battled fellow teen Tatiana Golovin of France 6-1, 4-6, 7-6 (7/2) in 2hr 21min to become the first Russian finalist of the event.

MAURESMO

As a result Mauresmo, who held the world number one spot for just over a month last year, will jump two places to overtake US star Serena Williams as the world No. 2 whatever the result Sunday.

"My aim of course is to regain the number one place," said Mauresmo, who faces her second meeting in as many months with 18-year-old Safina, sister of Australian Open champion Marat Safin.

The girl from Moscow is bidding for her third title after Sopot in 2002 and Palermo in 2003, against Maursemo who is looking for her 16th career title.

Mauresmo, 25, and Safina, 18, previously met in the second round of the Australian Open three weeks ago with the French player winning 2-6, 6-1, 6-0.

"She's a player who has really progressed the last few months," said Mauresmo. "But I've more experience of this type of match and want to go all out to get that title." It is Mauresmo's fourth Paris final, she was twice runner-up to Williams in 1999 and 2003, but missed last year's event through injury.

Safina, a semi-finalist last year, anticipated a tough encounter.

"All the public are going to be behind her so it will be difficult," said Safina. *AFP*

es fire coach Saunders

sota Timber-
nderson Sat-
ketball Asso-
underachiev-

d vice presi-
Hale as inter-

50 players,
olves in 1993
in 1995.

He won three NBA championships with the Boston Celtics in 1981, 1984 and 1986.

Saunders, who had been the NBA's second-longest tenured coach behind Utah's Jerry Sloan, will remain with the team.

As a senior at Minnesota, Saunders teamed with McHale to lead the Golden Gophers to a 24-3 record in 1976-77.

After never winning a playoff series, Minnesota came within two games of the NBA Finals last season, losing to the Los Angeles Lakers in six games in the Western Conference finals.

With Kevin Garnett earning MVP honors, the Timberwolves won a franchise-record 58 games and finished with the best mark in the West.

But they have been a huge disappointment this season and dropped under .500 (25-26) with Friday's 100-82 loss at Utah, their seventh in eight games. *AFP*

Takaoka rules Tokyo Marathon

TOKYO—Japan's Toshinari Takaoka made a long solo run in the last 18 kilometers for his first career victory at the Tokyo international men's marathon on Sunday.

Asia's marathon record holder, forming a three-men front-running group, made a break away after passing the 24-K mark and never faced a serious challenge afterwards winning in two hours seven minutes 41 seconds.

Zebedayo Bayo of Tanzania, the 2003 winner here, slowly and steadily moved up his placing to finish second in 2:10:51, followed by Uladzimir Tsiamchyk of Belarus third in 2:14:24.

The 1999 world bronze medalist Nobuyuki Sato of Japan finished at a lowly eighth in 2:16:18. *AFP*

A LIFETIME GIFT...HAIR TRANSPLANTATION!

Remember how your hair used to look? Now imagine your life again with a head full of hair. It grows, it's permanent and only maintenance is a monthly haircut. Dr. Pineda uses the latest technology with follicular unit transplant to achieve a natural looking hairline. ***"As natural as it used to be"! Andrew G. Pineda, M.D.*** is a full time Beverly Hills trained hair transplant specialist who can help you achieve your dream. **CALL NOW!**

BEFORE
AFTER

The Pineda Hair Clinics
MAKATI 8130691 • www.pinedahair.com • DAVAO 082 2212682

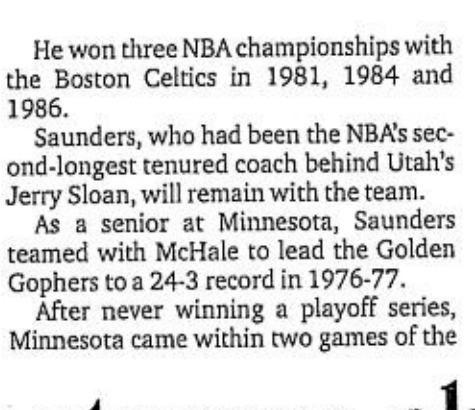
son storms ahead by 7; misses third-round cut

ind another
s the world
seven-stroke
ler 67 in the
ach National

in devastat-
terey Penin-
rses used in
earn the US
tournament

l defending
struggled to
consecutive
first time in
back to the

d the 18th at
shoot a 67
n 203.
al; Tim Clark
Magee, Kevin
s were nine
205.
asters cham-
hind Mickel-
nder posted
till to finish
Clarke, Jeff
er on 10-un-


MICKELSON hits his tee shot on No. 4. AFP

"I still want to go out and play a good round tomorrow," said Mickelson, the 1998 Pebble Beach champion. "I'm not taking it lightly, I know there's a 10-under, nine-under out there.

"I want to go out and shoot a solid 69 or 68 and not give these other guys a chance.

"I don't want to do anything stupid that will open the door and let guys back in but I also don't want to go out and play defensive.

"I want to play the way I've been playing, which is taking aggressive swings, firing at some pins and trying to make some birdies. I think because I have a few shots in hand I'll be able to play that style of golf without fear." Fresh from a five-stroke victory at last week's Phoenix Open which included a course record-equaling 11-under 60, Mickelson carried his blistering form to California.

The 34-year-old American sounded a warning when he opened with a record 10-under 62 at Spyglass Hill before following up with a 67 at Poppy Hills to set a 36-hole tournament record.

Mickelson produced six birdies on Saturday, his only blemish being a bogey on the par-four 10th. In his last six rounds, he has fired 41 birdies and an eagle.

Billy Andrade, playing at Pebble Beach, had the top round of the day with a nine-under 63, rocketing him up the leaderboard to join a group of four players on nine-under 207.

Andrade had a bogey at the first but hit back in brilliant style with eight consecutive birdies from the fifth. *Reuters*

se teener eyes US LPGA Tour

an's Ai
er, the
Japanese LP-

the United

Japan, where
ntion in much
ld Korean-
n North

oud in Japan,"
ung with part-
the lead with
the team

World Cup of Golf.

When Miyazato plays in Japan, TV rating easily top the corresponding men's event. She has almost rock-star status.

But in South Africa, she's gone mostly unnoticed.

The lack of attention allows her to chip ball after ball from the fringe of a practice green, sinking more than she misses. Next, she sits next to her golf bag, plays with the fluffy toys dangling from it, and examines her immaculately manicured nails.

"I like to wear good clothes," she said, looking down at her soft pastel yellow shirt and her unmarked white golf shoes.

Miyazato won her first pro tournament, taking the Miyagi TV Cup in September, 2003, playing as an amateur. She turned pro four weeks later, won five tournaments in her rookie year and became the first Japanese teenager to earn over US$1 million in a single year.

In November when Tiger Woods won the Dunlop Phoenix in Japan—his first stroke-play win in more than a year—Miyazato was winning the Japan LPGA.

The events went head-to-head and her ratings dwarfed those of Woods. *AP*

Imagine...
Six Days...
Five Nights...
your dream trip to Singapore...
cruising with all the singles.. whoa!
Yes, you are so LUCKY to be SINGLE!
Experience the glamour and the romance of mingling with other singles from all over the world.
Meet celebrities. Make connections. Make things happen! Who knows?
The love of your life might just be on this trip.
Give yourself a chance, but make sure it's the right chance with itzamatch.com.
Don't miss the fun. Ship sails on May 15, 2005! So join now!
You can even win this trip for free if you register and reserve within January 30 to March 30, 2005!
Log on to www.itzamatch.com.
All HSBC credit cardholders, enjoy 0% interest for 6 months, plus a free trolley bag to help you pack.
For more info, call : 4486750 - 4487913
Or call horizon travel 3060259-61
Email info@itzamatch.com
You've gotta be single to mingle!
Unlimited destinations, boundless thrills! It's definitely worth the trip, if not for finding your soulmate, then for the sheer adventure of it.
Maximum convenience from booking to travelling.
Fun-filled agenda all taken care of.
Dance, dine, and drink like never before!
Chat, text, email -- communications prior and all throughout the trip via itzamatch.com
For more info, log on to www.itzamatch.com
itzamatch!
HSBC
Globe

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Wildcats rip USP, face Lancers next

GAMES TOMORROW (*Cebu Coliseum*)
4 p.m.—University of San Jose-Recoletos vs (to be announced)
6 p.m.—University of Mindanao vs University of Visayas

By Francis Ochoa

CEBU CITY—The University of Mindanao Wildcats leaned on towering center Samigue Eman and a suffocating defense to hack out a 93-74 triumph over the University of Southern Philippines Panthers yesterday in the Champions Cup at the Cebu Coliseum here.

Eman, a prized find from a well-funded grassroots program, dumped 15 of his 21 points in the second half as the Wildcats came out of a 12-point third-quarter hole to advance in this US NCAA-style tournament against Cebu heavyweight University of the Visayas.

"We adjusted our zone defense in the second half so they could not take open shots," said Wildcats coach Rhoel Josol in Filipino.

In the second game, Orville Saludsod scored 21 points to lead five players in double figures—including three in the 20's—as the University of Cebu Webmasters destroyed the West Negros College Mustangs, 109-83.

The Webmasters led by just six at the half but peeled away in the third period by unleashing a mean full-court press and turning to Saludsod on offense to take an 82-61 edge going into the last quarter.

Lloyd Ortigueza and Kenneth Sesante added 20 each for UC, which advances to the next round against the seeded University of San Jose-Recoletos Jaguars.

The Wildcats abandoned their ineffective 2-3 zone and threw a 1-3-1 defense after the Panthers had taken a 54-42 spread early in the third period.

The switch proved fruitful as UM, the Davao collegiate circuit champion, forced USP to run its offense through the 6-foot-9 Eman, whose intimidating presence in the middle stymied the Panthers no end.

Before the defensive change, the Wildcats fell prey to a well-oiled Panthers offense that resulted in crisp drop passes to the baseline for perimeter shots.

"It took a while for us to see what they [Panthers] could do," Josol said.

When they did figure it out, the Wildcats took charge, holding the Panthers scoreless in a three-minute stretch in the third period to take a 67-60 lead entering the final quarter.

The Wildcats then turned to Eman at every opportunity. Scoring on short stabs and revealing a soft touch from the stripe, Eman boosted UM to an 83-65 lead.

The Wildcats even stretched their lead to 92-72.

But UM, which trailed by 13 at the end of the first period as it struggled to get a feel of the court, cannot go on another slow start against the seeded UV Green Lancers, who are led by Philippine Basketball League standout JR Quiñahan.

UV earned an automatic bye after winning the Cebu Schools Athletic Foundation Inc. title over University of San Jose-Recoletos, which got the other outright seed.

The winners of tomorrow's matches fly to Manila to join the main bracket of the tournament featuring the top collegiate schools in the country.

The scores:

First Game

UM 93—Eman 21, Gonzaga 21, Saldua 14, Awitin 13, Medalla 5, Birondo 6, Callo 3, Calompong 2, Palomares 2, Licerable 2, Gulrigay 1.

USP 74—Labares 18, Travero 11, Mercader 8, Bartolobac 8, Pendang 8, Colonia 5, Sereno 4, Nemenzo 4, Cumba 2, Ceniza 2.

Quarters: 15-28, 40-45, 67-60, 93-74

PDI PHOTO

THE DE LA SALLE Lady Archers whoop it up after winning the Shakeys V-League title by sweeping the UST Tigresses yesterday.

Lady Archers score V-League title sweep

By Musong R. Castillo

LA SALLE held the normally prolific Santo Tomas offense to only 55 points yesterday, fashioning out a straight-set victory to nail down the Shakey's V-League title with a 2-0 sweep of their championship series.

The Lady Archers came up with a defensive wall that kept the Tigresses at bay and won, 25-14, 25-18, 25-23, in just one hour and 16 minutes to highlight a banner season.

"The players simply did not want to lose," said assistant coach Oliver Almadro, who called the shots vice Ramil de Jesus, who came down with chicken pox right after Game 1 on Thursday.

"This one is for the school and the thousands who supported us," added Almadro as the Lady Archers practically had the home-court edge with La Salle students and alumni almost filling the Rizal Coliseum to the rafters.

Skipper Maureen Penetrante and Michelle Carolino took turns in hurting the Tigresses, their 31-point total just one shy of the entire UST output in the first two sets.

Carolino consistently found holes in the UST defense, towering above everyone else every time she went for a kill. She was later named the tournament Most Valuable Player over UST's Roxanne Pimentel, who settled for the Best Attacker award.

The Tigresses, who won this league's initial conference, were never in it as they groped for form all game long.

Pimentel, who twisted her right ankle in Game 1, played under a lot of pain medication but was not much of a factor despite leading the Tigresses with 12 markers.

La Salle ganged up on Pimentel every time she was up front, and the 6-foot athletic marvel bungled kills the very few times that she was left wide open.

Venus Bernal and Mary Jean Balse chipped in 11 apiece for the Tigresses, who got only three points from Kate Co Yu Kang, who also played with pain in both knees.

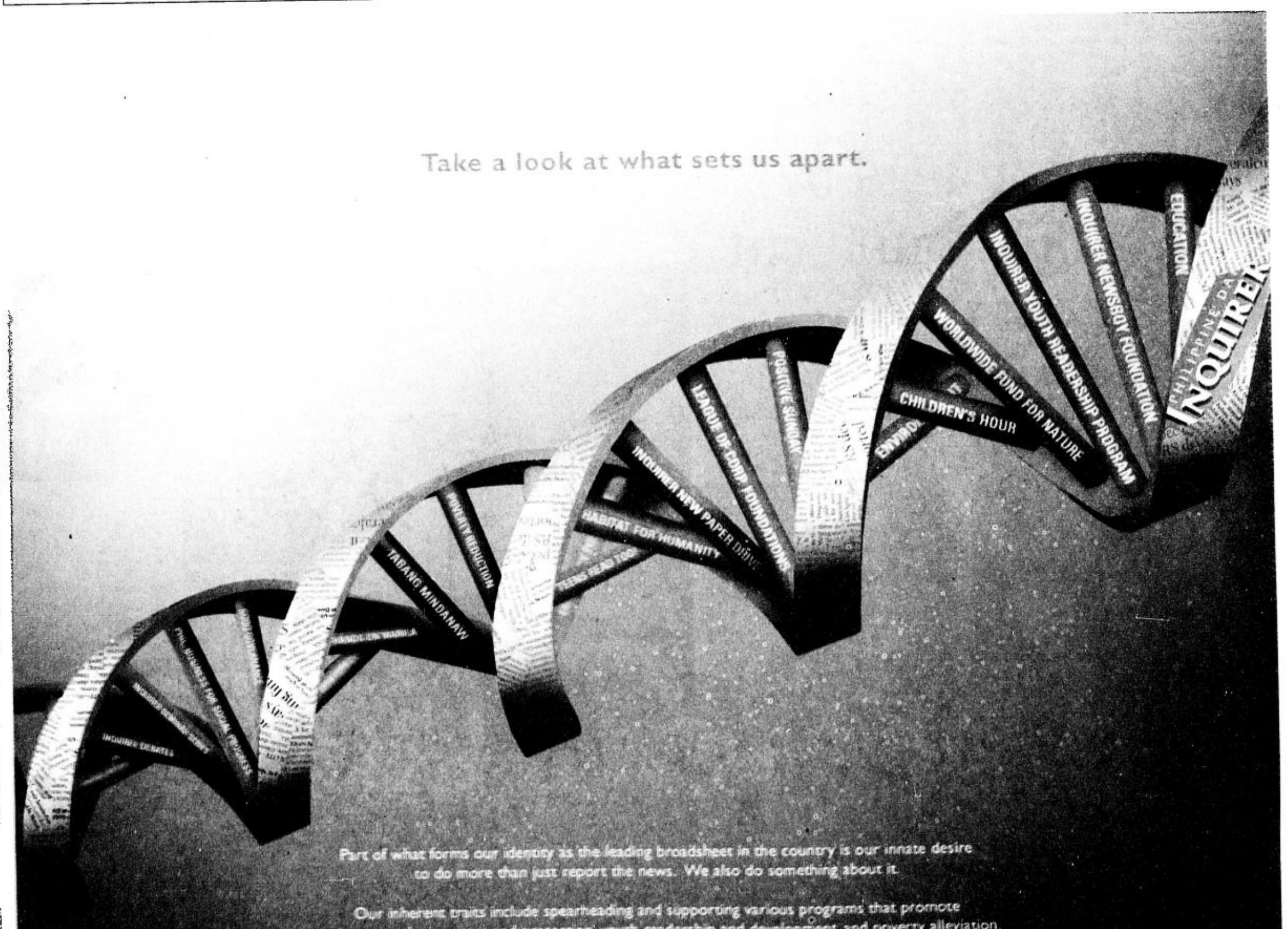
"This team has nothing to be ashamed of," said Santo Tomas coach August Sta. Maria.

La Salle won a total of 11 points off blocks and Santo Tomas aided its downfall by committing 16 unforced errors.

All told, UAAP champs La Salle beat Santo Tomas in three of four meetings in this tournament. The Lady Archers have won all but two of 36 games dating back to July.

Letran bagged third place earlier after a 25-22, 25-21, 18-25, 25-20 decision of the Philippine Sports Commission Lady Legends.

Take a look at what sets us apart.



Part of what forms our identity as the leading broadsheet in the country is our innate desire to do more than just report the news. We also do something about it.

Our inherent traits include spearheading and supporting various programs that promote environmental awareness and protection, youth readership and development, and poverty alleviation. This is how we help give these causes the attention and assistance they deserve.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

SPORTSWATCH

Lejano rules PPSA Nationals

WORLD Shoot-bound Jeufro Lejano put up a sterling performance as he dominated the PPSA Nationals, a level III tournament organized by the Philippine Practical Shooting Association (PPSA) recently. Displaying impressive speed and marksmanship, Lejano, the former world junior champion, was near-flawless in ruling the modified division participated in by more than 50 shooters. Lejano, a member of the 2001 RP team that won the World Shoot XII gold medal, tallied the best match points of 1132.76, thwarting the bid of rivals Lyndon Biraogo and Nelson Uygongco. "There was pressure in the early stages," said Lejano. "I made some adjustments and it paid off." Biraogo, also a veteran internationalist, settled for a runner-up finish with 1086.49, with Uygongco placing third with 1074.57. In the open division, Michael Ku edged Stephen Hinohales, 1166.94-1118,02, for the crown, Christopher Panganiban was third with 961.2 points. Angelo Wilfredo topped the producation division with 1079.10 points. Daniel Torrevillas placed second with 1078.96 and Jerome Morales third with 1033.05.

DND-Media shootfest set

SOME 150 members of the local media and as many as 100 officers and personnel of the Department of National Defense are expected to see action in the four-stage DND-Media Fellowship Shootfest slated Feb. 25 and 26 at the DND firing range inside Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City. A joint activity of the Degense Press Corps, National Press Club, Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster sa Pilipinas (Metro Manila Chapter) and DND and sanctioned by the Philippine Practical Shooting Association, the event will have Defense Secretary Avelino J. Cruz Jr. as guest of honor and speaker. Co-organizers Army Col. Rodolfo Santiago and Public Affairs director Ros Manlangit said several corporations and institutions have pledged support to the shootfest. For tournament inquiries, call Manlangit at 9114529 or 9113339, Jing Barrameda (9114529), Raoul Esperas (8151990), Joel Sy Egco (0918-6258008) or Jerry Yap (30190522).

Kitefest takes off Feb. 20

THE 15TH Bear Brand Kitefest, the country's biggest and most-awaited kite festival, takes off at the Gov. Mariano Perdices Memorial Coliseum in Dumaguete on Feb. 20. With the theme "Lipad na sa Saya," the kite event stakes millions of pesos in cash prizes for the winners in three categories. Aside from Dumaguete, the kitefest will also visit Lingayen on Feb. 27, Tacloban on March 6, General Santos on March 13, Palawan on March 20, Baguio on April 3, Cagayan de Oro on April 10, Lucena on April 17, Davao on April 24 and Manila on May 15.

eTelecare badminton slated

IT'S "all systems go" for the First eTelecare Collegiate and Alumni Invitational Badminton Cup set March 4, 5 and 6 at the Olympic Badminton Club in Libis, Quezon City. eTelecare Global Solutions, the world's most awarded and largest Asia-based call center company, is holding the tournament in partnership with the Philippine Badminton Association (PBA). Competitions in the men's, ladies' and mixed doubles categories are open to student and alumni teams from the country's leading colleges and universities. At stake is P200,000 in cash and other prizes. "At eTelecare, we believe in the holistic and balanced development of people, not only in skills and technical competencies, but also in character development and physical well-being," said Benedict C. Hernandez, eTelecare vice president and general manager. Registration procedures, tournament venues and playdates will be announced later.

Antonio entry tops NCA tilt

POPULAR cockfight champ Patrick Antonio emerged as solo winner with his entry, PEBR Complexor 3000 Mulawin IV, in the National Cockers Association 7-Cock Derby at the Araneta Coliseum recently. Antonio's entry topped the 38-entry roster after collecting six wins and one defeat in the derby hosted by Rep. Ronnie Puno and Rep. Gerry "Boy" Espina. Antonio, a regular NCA member, used Zamboanga-bred fowls noted for their intelligence and impressive staying power. He will lead another crack cast of more than 40 participants in another NCA 7-Cock Derby tomorrow to be hosted by Rep. Rudy Albano, Alex and Gerry Escalona, Patrick Puno and Mayor Nic Patenia. Submission of weights for the derby will be held today from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Araneta Coliseum green gate. For inquiries, call 9113101 and 9112928.

Largahan derby pot P1.5M

A GUARANTEED prize of P1.5 million awaits the winners of the annual Largahan 5-Cock Derby slated Feb. 26 and 28 and March 2 and 4 at Roligon Mega Cockpit. Entry fee is P4,400. The four-day cockfest is hosted by Roligon owner Rolly Ligon, who is giving away a brand-new Toyota Surf 4x4 vehicle to the fastest kill champion. The 2-cock elimination rounds will be held Feb. 26 and 28 and March 2 with the qualifiers advancing to the 3-cock finals on March 4. Meanwhile, a total of P4 million in prizes were distributed to the winners of Roligon's Anniversary Derby recently. Wewe Burgos' entry, March 30 3-Cock Las Piñas, Dr. Macadagdag's DTM Credentials and Rey Junio's Meyc. 4-Cock Derby emerged as champions, with Macadagdag driving home a 3-door Pajero for winning the fastest kill category. For inquiries, call 8332275, 833-1638 and 8529812.

Filcoba 3rd stage Wednesday

THE THIRD stage of the Filipino Cockers and Breeders Association (Filcoba) Cocker of the Year series kicks off at Roligon Mega Cockpit on Wednesday with a guaranteed cash prize of P300,000 for a low entry fee of P7,700. Colonel Tabique's entry, Joyjoy, and Benny Lado's Black Alamat ruled the first stage last Jan. 12 with Abraham Bernales and Darwin Torres topping the second leg with their entry, DJ-Sherwin Torres. Tabique's Joyjoy and Nelson Uy's NU Red Hawk lead the four-month derby circuit with six points apiece. In second place with 5.5 points is M-56 of Dado Mitra, followed by Old Time Nevada of Tos Reyes, DJ Sherwin Torres of Bernales and Black Alamat of Benny Lado with 5.0 points each. Half a point further adrift are Wild na Wild, AS Alpha Sierra, Star Cross of Peter Uren and Sovereign Escort.

KONICA MINOLTA GOLF CHAMPS
Gerard Cantada (third from left) and JR Tanpinco (fourth from right) pose with the champions' check after becoming repeat champions of the Konica Minolta National Pro-Am on Sunday at The Riviera Golf Club in Silang, Cavite. Joining them are (from left) Ted Yamada of Konica Minolta, Riviera chair Cesar Jayme Jr., U-Bix chair and CEO Bert Bravo, Fel Bravo, Riviera president Danny Pizarro, U-Bix COO Vida C. Ty and NGAP sec-gen Louie Fernandez.

Ex-golf champ Teroy Nadales needs help

DIONISIO "Teroy" Nadales, once among the country's top pro golfers, is facing the greatest test of his life.

A contemporary of former Philippine Open champions Celestino "Tino" Tugot and Ben Arda, Nadales is confined at the ICU of the Alabang Medical Center with brain cancer.

JP Nadales yesterday appealed for help for his grandfather, saying the family has no one to turn to for assistance except Teroy's former colleagues and friends and the students he taught golf as one of the stars of the now defunct Philippine Golf Circuit.

The older brother of another PGC regular, Gerry, Teroy was among those who helped develop Robert Pactolerin into one of the country's top pros in the 1980s.

JP Nadales may be reached through his mobile phone number, 0917-3236148.

AN OPEN LETTER TO DENR SECRETARY HONORABLE MICHAEL T. DEFENSOR

Dear Mr. Secretary;

In behalf of the residents of Barangay Hugo Perez and Lallana of Trece Martires City, Cavite who have been affected by the severe air, water, soil, acid rain and noise pollution caused by a manufacturer of galvanized iron products right in the midst of their community and creek habitat.

Maraming salamat po

for closing SONIC STEEL PLANT and suspending its ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE.

The huge factory of SONIC STEEL INDUSTRIES in Barangay Hugo Perez, Trece Martires City, Cavite started commercial operations in 1992 and since then has changed their lives forever... NOT FOR BETTER BUT LAMENTABLY FOR THE WORSE. They have put their complaints in writing and submitted these, together with laboratory and hospital findings to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). They have been heard in a public hearing on February 7, 2005 conducted by the DENR-Environmental Management Bureau, the very same institution that could have prevented their suffering for the past 12 years.

SONIC persistently violated environmental laws and all these have been confirmed by the DENR inspection teams, the media, and by its own admissions.

1. Sonic has published "it has grown 10 times since 12 years ago". DENR Region IV(Calabarzon) records revealed that since then it secured only one (1) Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) in 1997. In other words, there was no ECC from 1992 up to 1997 as mandated by law. Moreover, SONIC had not secured an ECC for its manufacturing capacity expansions in 1999 and another in 2001 for its Superlume production line.

2. And even on this token compliance (1997 ECC) SONIC has registered several violations foremost of which is the non-operational waste water treatment facility.

   - Laboratory analysis * show that wastewater sample taken from its outfall pipe has **41.22 parts per million (ppm) of lead (Pb),** or 8 times the DENR standard of 5.0 ppm.
   - Laboratory analysis * also show that soil directly affected by the wastewater outfall has **46.99 ppm of lead (Pb), cadmium (Cd) 3.29 ppm, and zinc 45.0 ppm,** all of which are higher than the standards set by the DENR.
   - And laboratory analysis ** show that the elementary school's faucet water, delivered by gravity from an elevated open water tank, has **zinc mg/l at** 50 times the DENR standard of 0.02 mg/l.

3. GMA News (24 Oras), aired on January 26, 2005, showed black smoke coming out of SONIC's smokestack ... owing to its non-operational air pollution equipment DENR inspection teams discovered that even the Venturi scrubber equipment which simply pumps water to flush-out particulate matter to help arrest air pollution was not working at all due to its broken pump.

4. SONIC had not created a multi-partite monitoring team (MMT) since 1997 to conduct monitoring of air, noise and water emissions which is in total defiance of the provisions of PD 1586 and its implementing rules and regulations.

In the public hearing on February 7, 2005, the DENR declared SONIC in violation of the environmental and anti-pollution laws, its factory closed and its ECC suspended.

We earnestly believe Mr. Secretary, that these sanctions are to put it mildly, "a slap on the wrist".

In the interest of justice for the poor people of Hugo Perez and all our countrymen suffering from similar wanton disregard of environmental laws, we appeal that a correct and fair evaluation of the operations of SONIC be conducted if only to assure and protect their health and property from these grave pollution threats.

Mere suspension of SONIC's outdated 1997 ECC is not enough since it was done through the weak and truncated checklist Initial Environmental Evaluation by the Regional EMB and does not in any manner satisfy the full extent of the new environmental laws for toxic and hazardous waste regulation, and clean air and clean water... and importantly, does not cover the Y-2001 expansion of SONIC's Superlume production line.

We believe a mere suspension cannot correct the numerous environmental violations that have been persistently and continuously breached, more so that SONIC expanded its operations ten-fold since 1992.

We believe that a cancellation of SONIC's ECC is warranted and fair to the people of Barangay Hugo Perez. This will send a strong warning to all current and future violators of the environmental laws.

An extensive Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be conducted on the facilities of SONIC, followed by an EMB expert panel review... and only after a multi-sectoral consensus on ' ompliance and social acceptability in a public hearing should the new and updated ECC be granted SONIC to resume operations.

We are afraid Mr. Secretary, that we are nothing compared to the might and glory of Sonic Steel. To quote them: "We are big and you (government) cannot close us".

Nasa inyong mga kamay po ang kinabukasan, kaligtasan at kalusugan ng mga mamamayan at ng kapaligiran ng Barangay Hugo Perez.

Huwag po sana ninyo silang biguin.

Respectfully yours,

Roger C. Birosel
Sec-General, Earth Savers Movement

EARTHSAVERS Movement

* Adamson University Technology Research & Development Center
** First Analytical Services & Technical Cooperative Laboratories

Ninoy Aquino Hall, Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Nature Center, Quezon Avenue, Quezon City • Tel. Nos.: 527-7771 to 74 / 931-0109 • Fax: (632) 527-1409

SPORTS

Flashy Gabi TKO's Indonesian rival in first round

By Salven L. Lagumbay, *Contributor*

NO WONDER the World Boxing Council flyweight champion from Thailand is avoiding him like a plague.

Solidifying his status as one of the country's premier world-title hopes, WBC No. 8 flyweight Diosdado "Prince" Gabi needed less than a round to dispose of old rival Jimmy Pinontoan of Indonesia in their scheduled 10-rounder topbilling the Final Encounter card at the Royal Mandaya Hotel in Davao City Saturday.

All that the Lasang, Davao-native Gabi needed was a solid uppercut to Pinontoan's solar plexus that sent the Indon down to the canvas for good.

Pinontoan stayed down for about 10 minutes before he was helped to his feet.

Pinontoan's manager, Pino Bahari, said they did not expect Gabi to be this strong, noting that both fighters figured in a draw in their first meeting in June 2002 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Gabi, however, maintained that he should have won the first bout.

Gabi's manager, North Cotabato Gov. Emmanuel Piñol, himself a grizzled boxing observer, noted that Pinontoan absorbed the same punch that finished off Thai Saensak Singmanasak last Dec. 19.

The win improved Gabi's record to 24 wins with 18 KOs, against two losses and a draw.

Gabi nearly had a chance to face WBC flyweight champ Pongsaklek Wongjongkam late last year in Phuket, Thailand, but the Thai's handlers backed out a few weeks before the fight.

Reports said the Thais didn't want to risk a loss because the fight was one of the featured attractions during the WBC convention being held then.

Gabi's handlers also plan a possible stint for the shifty southpaw at the Wild Card Gym of renowned trainer Freddie Roach in Los Angeles.

Roach had expressed interest in training Gabi when he came here last year to oversee Manny Pacquiao's training for Fahsan 3K Battery.

Cover Girl, old partner strike again at S. Lazaro

By Edwin Villanueva, *Contributor*

STAR jockey Jonathan Hernandez has been guiding Cover Girl for the last seven months, so he knows exactly what to do atop the classy filly.

"Napag-aralan ko na rin ang galaw niya kaya alam ko na kung saan bibitawan (I've studied her moves already so I know when to ask her to make a rally)," said Hernandez moments after Cover Girl drubbed the field, including Empire King, in the "Karera Para sa Puso" at the San Lazaro Leisure Park.

Unlike Pat Dilema who rode Empire King for the first time yesterday, Hernandez was cool and calculating on Cover Girl.

As Dilema sacrificed the 2004 Horse of the Year early in the altar of pace, Hernandez simply allowed Cover Girl to watch the leaders from the tailend of the six-horse field before asking her to run in full flight.

So by the time Empire King dispatched Free Wind and American Woman nearing the home turn, Cover Girl was charging solidly from the outside, later vaulting ahead unopposed and drawing away to clinch her second major victory this year.

A fagged out Empire King settled for third place after import Sound Offer rushed from nowhere to seize second spot, three lengths behind Cover Girl. Stowaway Lass arrived fourth then came American Woman and Free Wind.

Since Hernandez took over from Eldy Salvador in July last year, Cover Girl has already nailed down a total of nine wins in 14 outings.

Cover Girl, a 4-year-old bay filly by Khozaam out of Gallant Native, bagged the P300,000 first prize, while Sound Offer got P112,500. Empire King settled for P62,500.

A change of strategy by Empire King's connections saw Dilema guiding the favored colt in lieu of Jeffrey Ladiana, but the partnership flopped.

Dilema sent Empire King in an early speed duel with Free Wind and American Woman, a ploy that proved costly in their bid to exact revenge on Cover Girl, who was sent away as the second favorite.

Empire King landed a hard-fighting second in the Santa Ana Championship.

Both horses are expected to clash again in the Freedom Cup (Feb. 25) although

COVER Girl reiterates a point at SLLP minus jockey EF Salvador. ROGER CARPIO

Empire King was listed in the Philracom Open (Feb. 20) which Cover Girl is skipping. Ladiana has been tapped to mount Empire King again in both races.

Cover Girl steadily improved after placing sixth in the PGC. She arrived a close third in the Classic Open won by her stablemate West Bound before opening her campaign as a 4-year-old by humbling Empire King and West Bound in the first leg of the Santa Ana Championship.

Cover Girl was awarded 2004's Champion 3-Year-Old Filly by the Philtobo during the Gintong Lahi Awards night.

'Kalikasan' race roster tops 2,000

OLYMPIAN Eduardo Buenavista heads a huge field of more than 2,000 runners vying in the dzMM Takbo Para Sa Kalikasan starting and ending at the Quirino Grandstand this Sunday.

Also making the men's roster is consistent top finisher Cresenciano Sabal. Sealand Agana leads the cast in the distaff race.

With just over 400 T-shirts still available for participants, organizers expect race registration at the Vasquez Madrigal Plaza Building on Annapolis Street in Greenhills to end on Wednesday. May Valle Ceniza, dzMM special projects head, said proceeds of the race will go to the rehabilitation of the La Mesa Watershed.

The Takbo Para Sa Kalikasan is held in partnership with Nation Petroleum Corp. and Nike.

At stake is P50,000 cash developmental awards for top finishers of the 3-K kiddie run, 5-K Fun Run and the 10-K run. In addition, a plaque awaits the group with the biggest delegation.

Invited to fire off the runners at 6 a.m. is Korina Sanchez. Warm up exercises will be led by Cory Quirino, Kaye Dacer, Pinky Webb, Doris Bigornia, Roselle Manahan and Marah Capuyan.

Guests invited to grace the sixth staging of the race are former President Fidel V. Ramos, Sen. Manny Villar, Sen. Francis Pangilinan, Environment Secretary Mike Defensor, Sen. Alfredo Lim, Renato Ang, vice chair of Nation Petroleum Corp. and Oti Villarama, sports marketing manager of Nike Phils. Inc.

Gran Copa legacy lives on

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

AFTER an absence of two years, the historic Gran Copa de Manila, one of the country's most prestigious and popular horseracing events, returns to the scene on June 24 at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite.

"We are set to meet with Manila Mayor Lito Atienza sometime this week to finalize the details of this star-studded race," said SLLP marketing executive Henri Kahn, adding that Manila Jockey Club president lawyer Alfonso "Boy" Reyno Jr. will lead San Lazaro officials during the meeting.

A highlight of the annual "Araw ng Maynila" celebration, the modern-day Gran Copa de Manila has been held previously at the old San Lazaro Hippodrome, a 16-hectare compound on Tayuman Street in Sta. Cruz district, Manila, before the club relocated to a new and bigger venue in Carmona.

The "Gran Copa" started at the San Lazaro Hippodrome in 1980 when Luminary won the race and it lasted until 2002 when super horse Wind Blown owned by multi-awarded Hermie Esguerra topped the Division I classic. Esguerra added another feather to his cap when he was voted recently Horseowner of the Year by the Philtobo Gintong Lahi Awards. The affair was held under the auspices of the Philippine Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Organization headed by Nonoy Niles Jr.

Retracing history, available records showed it was in 1898 when prominent members of the Manila Jockey Club first conceived the idea of holding a "Gran Copa" race. The MJC ordered from Hong Kong an ornate silver cup, the "Gran Copa de Manila," to be awarded to the winner of the club's special race scheduled on the first day of May. The signing of the Pact of Biakna-Bato in late 1897 ended hostilities between Spanish and Filipino revolutionaries, setting the stage for a grand celebration which included the staging of a special race.

However, on the eve of the scheduled race, at half past eleven in the evening, the Asiatic squadron of American Commodore George Dewey entered Manila Bay. At daybreak, the Spanish-American War began.

Dewey emerged victorious and ended Spanish rule in the Philippines. As a result of the war, the "Grand Copa" race—then scheduled at the Sta. Mesa Hippodrome—was canceled. It also temporarily closed the Manila Jockey Club.

The silver "Gran Copa" was taken to the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank for safekeeping at the height of hostilities. It was only returned to the club—now located on Tayuman—in 1946 where it was displayed at the club's VIP lounge. But in 1971, a fire razed the club and the silver cup was reduced to ashes.

In June 1980, then Manila Mayor Ramon Bagatsing, supported by the late Philippine Racing Commission chair and Makati Mayor Nemesio Yabut and officials of the Manila Jockey Club, revived the Gran Copa de Manila, staging its initial race on June 24 to coincide with the city's Foundation Day. Since then, the grand, old race has been held as part of the "Araw ng Maynila" festivities.

For this year's "Gran Copa," its new home will be the 77-hectare SLLP racing complex which includes an equestrian park, a world-class racetrack and Philips lighting facilities, the same ones used to illuminate the football competitions in the Olympics and Asian Games in South Korea.

"We will also provide a housing and hotel complex and a casino to complete the leisure facilities which we can offer to both local and foreign patrons," said Reyno, who got involved in the "King of Sports" in 1994 when he and his group acquired the Reyes-family-owned Santa Ana Park in Makati and, later on, the Manila Jockey Club.

But would you believe that Reyno and none of his business associates knew anything about horseracing before? "I've never been to a racing club in my whole life, neither any of my partners," he once admitted.

***

FIRST RACING CLUB IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. The Manila Jockey Club was formed in 1867 by a group of sportsmen led by Jose de la Gandara, then Spanish General of the Philippines. Membership in the club was exclusive and one can become a member only after passing the nod of strict members of the board of directors as just one dissenting vote would be enough to keep an applicant out. Its roster of past members and officials included many famous names, among them John MacLeod, Dr. Benito Valdes, Juan Jose Tuazon, Mauro Prieto, Enrique Zobel, Dr. Vicente Singson Encarnacion, Francisco Ortigas, Manuel Torres, Francisco Beech, Rafael Roces, who introduced the "daily double" bet; Charles Barnes, Rafael Valdes, Manuel Valdes and Leo Prieto, the best commissioner the PBA ever had.

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

ENTERTAINMENT

Text us your feedback: Inqui... Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor Louie C. Camino
Assistant Editor Emmie G. Velarde

Phillip Salvador may end up paying money he owes former live-in partner with the condo unit he shared with Kris Aquino

Not a Valentine story

IT'S WORTH considering, says Cristina Castillo-Decena (top), but Kris should sign deed of absolute sale. Phillip is said to be offering P5 million on top of the property.

By Marinel R. Cruz

PHILLIP Salvador is willing to put up as part of his payment for the money he owes ex-girlfriend Cristina Castillo-Decena the condominium unit he used to share with Kris Aquino.

This, Decena herself told INQUIRER Entertainment on Thursday. She was considering the offer, she added, but the deed of absolute sale should be signed by Aquino, in whose name the unit is registered.

The Las Piñas City Prosecutor's Office last week recommended the filing of estafa charges against Phillip in connection with 10 jeepneys that Decena bought in December 2001, when they were still living together.

In connection with this case, Philip's brother, Ramon, could also be charged with estafa "for deceiving [Decena] into investing in a business through false representations," according to the decision signed by State Prosecutor II Teresita N. Cativo and dated Feb. 2.

In another resolution issued on the same day, Prosecutor II Marilyn Cynthia Fatima Madamba-Luang recommended the filing of estafa charges against the Salvador brothers for "deceiving" Decena when she helped them put up a freight and remittance business in Hong Kong more than three years ago.

Phillip blinked

Because of these strong recommendations, Decena said, Phillip has expressed, through his lawyer, a desire to settle out of court. "He is willing to give me the condo unit [plus] P5 million, so I would withdraw the cases. But the unit is under Kris' name [so she] has to sign the deed of absolute sale."

Decena admitted she was "interested" in the offer. "This is for everybody's peace of mind," she said. "All I really wanted was to clear my name, and for people to know that I am telling the truth."

The actor at first denied owing her money. In the very first estafa case she filed with the Department of Justice, she demanded payment of no less than P15 million which, she claimed, she lent him more than two years ago.

The DOJ referred the case to the Makati City prosecutor's office, which also recommended the filing of estafa charges against Phillip.

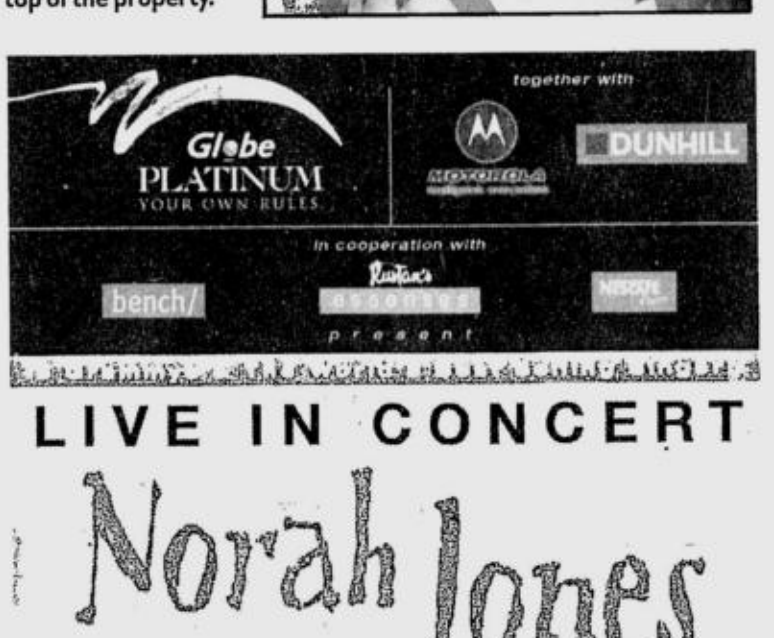
At the time, Decena told INQUIRER Entertainment that she would settle with Phillip only if he publicly acknowledged his P15-million debt. "That's not important to me now," she said last Thursday. "I'm happy although I didn't get a public apology from him. I only wanted to make it clear that I was the victim. I [also] want to teach him and Ramon a lesson

NOT A VALENTINE/ A2-5

LIVE IN CONCERT

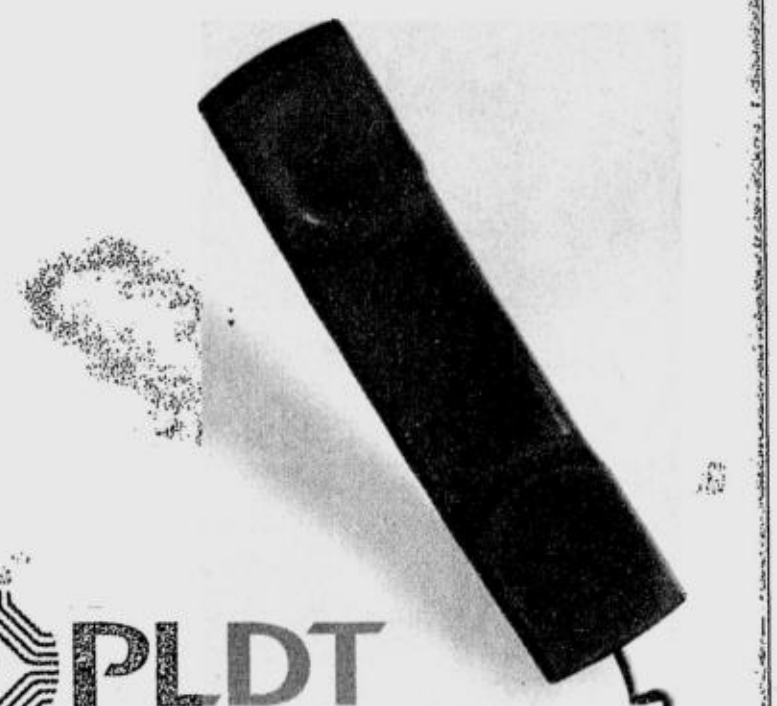
Norah Jones

ARANETA COLISEUM MARCH 12, 2005


For ticket inquiries call:
ALV EVENTS INTERNATIONAL at 633-0825 to 27
TICKETNET at 911-5555
A Production of ALV Events International

PLDT
Sangkatutak Na Saya No. 4

I-connect Ang Buong Barangay! Ikabit Ang Buong Kapitbahay!
Dahil May Goldmine Ka Sa Saya At Cash Credits!
Up To P4 Million To Be Won!



PLDT

"Landline Mo, Goldmine Ko!"

How to Goldmine Your Landline:

1. Promo is open to all current and new residential PLDT postpaid and Telesulit subscribers nationwide.
2. To join, subscriber must register and enrol at any PLDT Business Office to become an official Goldmine Agent.
3. For every approved and installed telephone subscription that is credited to his account, the Goldmine Agent receives the following:

GOLDMINE AGENT	For Every Post-paid Sub Approved and Installed	For Every Pre-paid Sub Approved and Installed
Post-paid Subscriber	Free P300 worth of NDD (PLDT-PLDT) and/or Vibe Internet Pay per Surf	Free P150 worth of NDD (PLDT-PLDT) and/or Vibe Internet Pay per Surf
Telesulit Subscriber	Free P300 worth of Load on existing Telesulit line	Free P150 worth of Load on existing Telesulit line

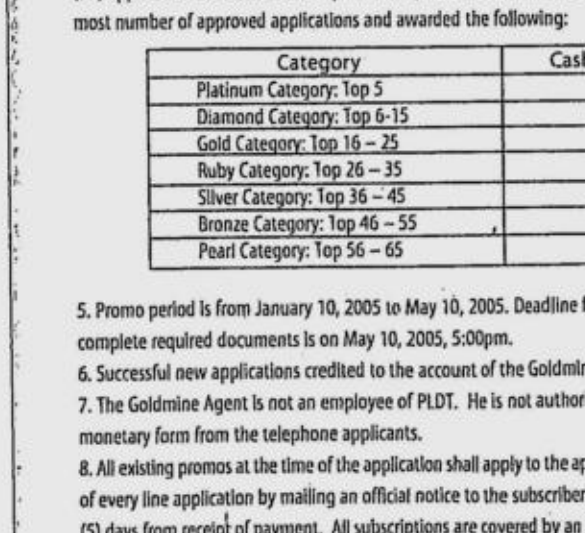
Note: *Credits/loads will automatically be credited to the account of the Goldmine Agent and will expire after one (1) month. Unused credits/loads will not be carried over to the succeeding month.*

4. To qualify for the cash prizes at the end of the promo period, Goldmine Agents should have at least fifty (50) approved and installed subscriptions. All qualified Goldmine Agents will be ranked according to the most number of approved applications and awarded the following:

Category	Cash Prize (in PhP)
Platinum Category: Top 5	Php 300,000
Diamond Category: Top 6-15	Php 150,000
Gold Category: Top 16 – 25	Php 75,000
Ruby Category: Top 26 – 35	Php 50,000
Silver Category: Top 36 – 45	Php 20,000
Bronze Category: Top 46 – 55	Php 10,000
Pearl Category: Top 56 – 65	Php 5,000

5. Promo period is from January 10, 2005 to May 10, 2005. Deadline for submission of referrals with complete required documents is on May 10, 2005, 5:00pm.
6. Successful new applications credited to the account of the Goldmine Agent are non-transferable.
7. The Goldmine Agent is not an employee of PLDT. He is not authorized to collect money or any other monetary form from the telephone applicants.
8. All existing promos at the time of the application shall apply to the applicant. PLDT will confirm availability of every line application by mailing an official notice to the subscriber. PLDT will install the line within five (5) days from receipt of payment. All subscriptions are covered by an 18-month contract or lock-in period. Pre-termination rates of P2,500 apply.
9. Standard policies of PLDT on Credit and Collection shall apply. PLDT reserves the right to disqualify any Goldmine Agent from the Program if any violation is committed on existing policies on subscription, credit and collection and/or commit acts of fraud.

See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3165, Series of 2004.



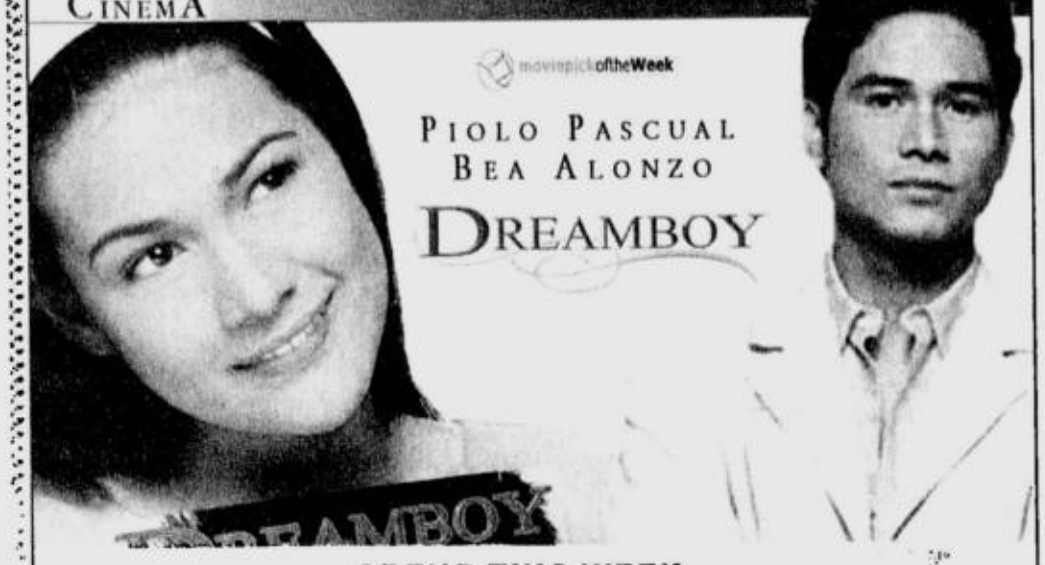
BKA PA RIN ANG MAY LANDLINE!
PLDT

GO TO YOUR NEAREST PLDT BUSINESS CENTER TO REGISTER AS AN AGENT.

Abangan!
Sangkatutak Na Saya Na May Kasunod Pa!

SM CINEMA

movietime



OPENS THIS WEEK

smcinema EXCLUSIVE

FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
MTRCB RATING GP

ALFIE
MTRCB RATING: R 13

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
MTRCB RATING PG 13

LET THE LOVE BEGIN
MTRCB RATING: GP

SALSA
MTRCB Rating: PG13

NOW SHOWING

—THE— PODIUM CINEMA

For Seat Reservation, call 633 8976
LATE NIGHT SCREENING
DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS

1 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
1:00 FS/ 1:30 MF / 3:50 / 6:10 /8:30
10:25 LFS / 10:50 LMF / 12:45 END

2 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
1:50 FS / 1:30 MF / 3:50 / 6:10
8:30 / 10:25 LFS / 10:50 LMF / 1:10/ END

METRO MANILA

sm megamall
1 ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13
2 MEET THE FOCKERS
3 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
4 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
5 FEBRUARY LOVE FEST
6 ELEKTRA
7 ALFIE
8 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
9 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
10 DREAMBOY
11 SHALL WE DANCE
12 SALSA smcinemaexclusive

sm city fairview
1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 ELEKTRA
3 SHALL WE DANCE
4 ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13
5 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
6 FEBRUARY LOVE FEST
7 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
8 DREAMBOY
9 FLIGTH OF THE PHOENIX
10 WITHOUT A PADDLE
11 MEET THE FOCKERS
12 DREAMBOY

sm city north edsa
1 ELEKTRA
2 DREAMBOY
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 SHALL WE DANCE
5 FEBRUARY LOVE FEST
6 MEET THE FOCKERS
7 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
8 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

sm city manila
1 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
2 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
3 FEBRUARY LOVE FEST
4 MEET THE FOCKERS
5 ELEKTRA
6 ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13
7 SHALL WE DANCE
8 DREAMBOY
9 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
10 ALFIE
11 DREAMBOY
12 LET THE LOVE BEGIN

sm city sta. mesa
1 DREAMBOY
2 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 SHALL WE DANCE
5 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
6 MEET THE FOCKERS
7 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
8 ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13
9 DREAMBOY
10 ELEKTRA

sm city southmall
1 FEBRUARY LOVE FEST
2 WITHOUT THE PADDLE
3 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
4 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
5 MEET THE FOCKERS
6 SHALL WE DANCE
7 DREAMBOY
8 ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13
9 ELEKTRA
10 A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT

sm city bicutan
1 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
2 DREAMBOY
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13

sm cinema tutuban
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

sm supercenter sucat
1 ELEKTRA
2 DREAMBOY
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX

LUZON

sm city pampanga
1 DREAMBOY
2 A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT
3 MAD HOUSE
4 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
5 ELEKTRA
6 LET THE LOVE BEGIN

sm city baguio
1 MEET THE FOCKERS
2 LET THE LOVE BEGIN KUNG
3 FU HUSTLE
4 DREAMBOY

sm city batangas
1 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
2 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
3 DREAMBOY
4 SHALL WE DANCE

sm city marilao
1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 DREAMBOY
3 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
4 DREAMBOY

sm city bacoor
1 ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13
2 ELEKTRA
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 SHALL WE DANCE
5 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
6 DREAMBOY
7 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
8 MEET THE FOCKERS

sm city dasmariñas
1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
3 MEET THE FOCKERS
4 DREAMBOY

sm city lucena
1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 ELEKTRA
3 KUNG FU HUSTLE
4 ELEKTRA

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

sm city cebu
1 A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT
2 KUNG FU HUSTLE
3 MEET THE FOCKERS
4 SALSA smcinemaexclusive
5 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
6 MAD HOUSE
7 DREAMBOY
8 ELEKTRA

sm city iloilo
1 IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE
2 RESERVED
3 ELEKTRA
4 KUNG FU HUSTLE
5 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
6 DREAMBOY
7 RESERVED
8 RACING STRIPES

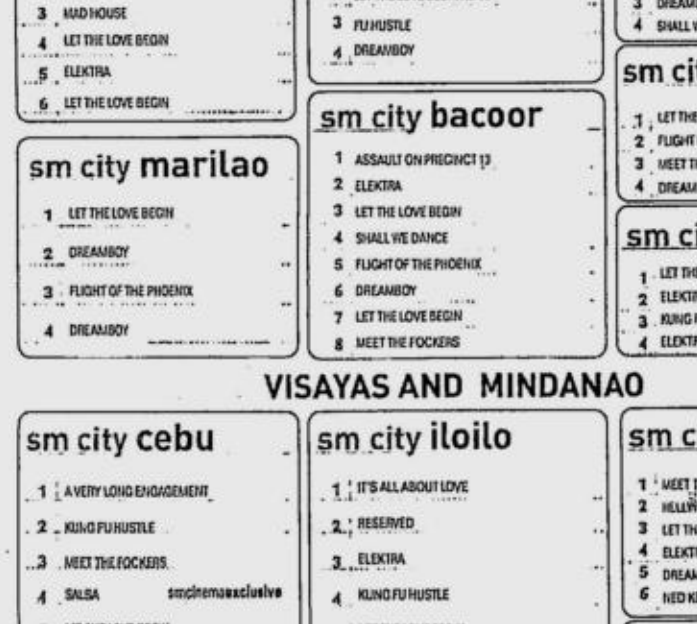
sm city davao
1 MEET THE FOCKERS
2 HELLBOY
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 ELEKTRA
5 DREAMBOY
6 NED KELLY

sm city cagayan de oro
1 KUNG FU HUSTLE
2 DREAMBOY
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 MEET THE FOCKERS

Movies are subject to change without prior notice • For complete movie schedule, visit www.smcinema.com

CALL! DIAL 833-9999 FOR INFORMATION AND MOVIE LISTINGS, MTRCB RATINGS AND SCREENING SCHEDULES.

SURF! VISIT US AT www.smcinema.com FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA.



Art Exhibit
CONSTANTINE
Catch the various interpretations of talented artists on the given theme as we showcase the chosen Constantine™ Painting Contest entries.
SM Megamall
February 8-March 1, 2005

Henna Tattoo Booth
Get your own Constantine™ -Inspired Henna Tattoos and relive the story.
SM Megamall
February 18 (1-4pm)

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City

Voted Best Movie Theater
-Philippine Daily Inquirer's 24/7 2004 Yearend Reader Survey

For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 11:00
GP

2 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
11:25, 2:25, 5:25 8:20, 11:10
PG-13

3 DREAMBOY
10:35, 1:05, 3:35, 6:05, 8:35, 11:05
GP

4 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
11:35, 2:05, 4:35, 7:05, 10:00
GP

POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City
Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

ALFIE R13 12:30,3:00,5:20,7:40,10:00	SHALL WE DANCE? GP 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10	PHANTOM OF THE OPERA PG13 11:00,1:50,4:40,7:30,10:20
DREAMBOY GP 12:20,2:45,5:10,7:35,10:00	ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13 R13 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10	FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX GP 12:40,3:00,5:30,8:00,10:30

star group of cinemas movie guide
IN DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND

starmall EDSA-SHAW
Tel. No. 726.61.50
3 Let The Love Begin
4 Flight Of The Phoenix
5 Dreamboy

METROPOLIS ALABANG star
Tel. No. 850.42.85
1 Elektra
2 Ang galing galing mo Babes
3 Let The Love Begin
4 Dreamboy
5 Flight Of The Phoenix
6 Phantom Of The Opera

starmall LAS PIÑAS
Tel. No. 873.50.04
1 Elektra
2 Dreamboy

Everyday Family Day! @ Metropolis Cinema
Get Free Toms World Tokens for every ticket purchase

For movie schedules visit www.clickthecity.com

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
11:30, 1:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:50
GP

CINEMA 2
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
10:30, 1:25, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10
PG13

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

MUSIC MUSEUM
FEBRUARY 13 & 14 OGIE ALCASID 8:30 PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0635

SHANG CINEPLEX

1 ALFIE
MTRCB. (R - 13)
12.15, 2.40, 5.05, 7.30, 9.55 LMF

2 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
MTRCB (GP)
11.20, 2.00, 4.40, 7.20, 10.00 LMF

3 THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
MTRCB (PG - 13)
12.20, 3.15, 6.10, 9.05 LMF

4 SHALL WE DANCE
MTRCB (GP)
12.25, 2.50, 5.15, 7.40, 10.05 LMP

PREMIERE THEATRE ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13
MTRCB (R - 13) 12.30, 2.55, 5.20, 7:45, 10:10 LMF
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

Catch the Cineplex Special Treats
Enjoy a 20% discount on Matinee Show tickets at the Cineplex, except on selected blockbuster movies.
From Monday to Friday: all Matinee Shows' screenings are scheduled before 4pm. For more details, please see the film listing at the Shang Cineplex ticket booths or call 633-2227 or 633-7851 local 171.
*Enjoy Sweet Cinema Treats at the Shang Cinebar
FREE Nestle Kitkat for every P150.00 in accumulated receipts, same day purchase of food and any Nestle drinks at the Shang Cinebar
FREE Nestle Kitkat for Premiere Theatre patrons (1 per patron).
Promo runs from February 7-21, 2005.
*Per DTI-NCR Permit No. AJ-072 Series of 2005
Regular Ticket Price
Premiere Theatre - P285 (includes unlimited popcorn and beverage)
Cinemas 1 to 4 - P160
Shangri-La Plaza

'SIDEWAYS' IS THE BEST PICTURE OF THE YEAR!
5 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS including BEST PICTURE
WINNER GOLDEN GLOBE BEST PICTURE
Rarely does a comedy come along that deserves to be taken seriously
SIDEWAYS
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTION AND ABOUT SCHMIDT

showing on FEBRUARY 16
at Robinsons Movieworld Cinemas
For screening time, pls. call our MOVIE ACCESS no. 635-5555 or visit us: www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
MTRCB Rating: R
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

And baby

FROM **Tintin Bersola** and **Julius Babao**, this brief note: "Our first baby, **Antonia Sofia**, is due around Feb. 25. Can't wait to be parents! *Malapit na*!"

—Short but sweet, and decidedly meaningful. Our congratulations in advance to Antonia's expectant mom and dad!

Tintin, when I see you on your morning show, literally bursting with life but still working hard for your *bambina*, I am filled with good, warm feelings.

I feel even better when I sense that you're providing your viewers, especially the youth, with an inspiring, positive example of a hardworking wife and future mother that other young women would want to emulate.

And Julius, as you quietly and manfully help Tintin through this potentially stressful time, you in turn inspire young male viewers to similarly value, respect and work with their own love partners for a better future together.

As a couple, you provide an even more sterling example of mutual love, spirituality and appreciation for the arts that helps neutralize the currently "fashionable" trend of cynically downgrading the sanctity of marriage, in favor of more temporary and mutually utilitarian liaisons.

That's why, to us, you're our Valentine couple of choice on this day of love. We celebrate and thank you—and baby makes three!

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

Stars in love

ON THIS day of days, for lovers, let's pay tribute to the palpitation-inducing emotions that makes the world go 'round—and sometimes even sends it spinning off its axis! Here to do the honors in this regard are some of show biz's most incurable romantics:

Ingrid Bergman: One is never too old for romance!

Michael Caine: Love is the great incentive, not just sex.

Barbara Hershey: I believe in love at first sight, though I don't really know if it's love!

Kelly McGillis: Love isn't intellectual, it's visceral.

Hayley Mills: Love emboldens!

Pal turns against Jacko

LOS ANGELES—Former child actor Corey Feldman, who has publicly defended Michael Jackson in the past, said in a recent interview the pop star once showed him a book of nude photos when Feldman was a young teen, ABC News reported.

ABC News reported that Feldman, now 33, went to authorities late last week after conducting the interview and has since been subpoenaed as a witness and placed under a gag order in the criminal case against Jackson.

A spokesperson for Feldman, who appeared as a young actor in such films as "Gremlins," "The Goonies" and "Stand By Me," told Reuters that was true.

Feldman's interview, set to air on ABC's "20/20" program on Friday, was conducted by British journalist Martin Bashir, whose 2003 TV documentary, "Living with Michael Jackson," included an interview with Jackson and the boy who later accused the singer of molesting him.

The 46-year-old entertainer has pleaded innocent to charges of child molestation and conspiracy to commit child abduction, extortion and false imprisonment.

After his arrest in November 2003, Jackson received expressions of support from several show business associates, including Feldman, who befriended Jackson at the age of 13 but had a falling out with the singer years later. *Reuters*

Power Pop Girls last audition set

FINAL audition for the Philippine Music Training School's Power Pop Girls is set on Feb. 20, 1 to 5 p.m., at 117-A S. Macaya St., Barangay Pasong Tamo, Tandang Sora, Quezon City.

Applicants should be from seven to 13 years old, and have a good singing voice and pleasing personality. Interested parties may call 454-0078, ask for Analyn Estinofo.

Bring your resumé with 3R photos (whole and half-body shots), minus-one or multiplex.

makes three

Julius, Tintin, you're our Valentine couple of choice

Lynn Redgrave: Love brings you out of your shell.

Mickey Rooney: Love wears off too quickly.

Roger Vadim: The only thing I love about love is the feelings, the imagination, the orgasms of the woman. For this, I'm not a good libertine.

Mae West: I never loved another person the way I loved myself.

Marcello Mastroianni: The preparation, the flirtation, the use of eyes—that's more stimulating than any drug.

On the other hand, here are less roseate comments by celebrities who are battle-scarred veterans of the romantic wars:

Jane Fonda: Love, when I had it, was a passion which left me lonely and bored.

Arnold Schwarzenegger: I have a love interest in every one of my films—a gun!

Warren Beatty: You love somebody once, you love them forever—only maybe not as much as the next person.

Bette Davis: I was never very interested in boys—and there were plenty of them, vying with one another to see how many famous women they could get in the hay.

Dudley Moore: I haven't loved that many women—only as many as I could get my hands on!

Frank Sinatra: If I had as many affairs as everyone thinks, I'd be speaking to you today from a jar at Harvard Medical School!

Raquel Welch: There's a lot of bad lovers around!

David Cromenberg: All romances end in tragedy. One of the key people in a romance becomes a monster, sooner or later.

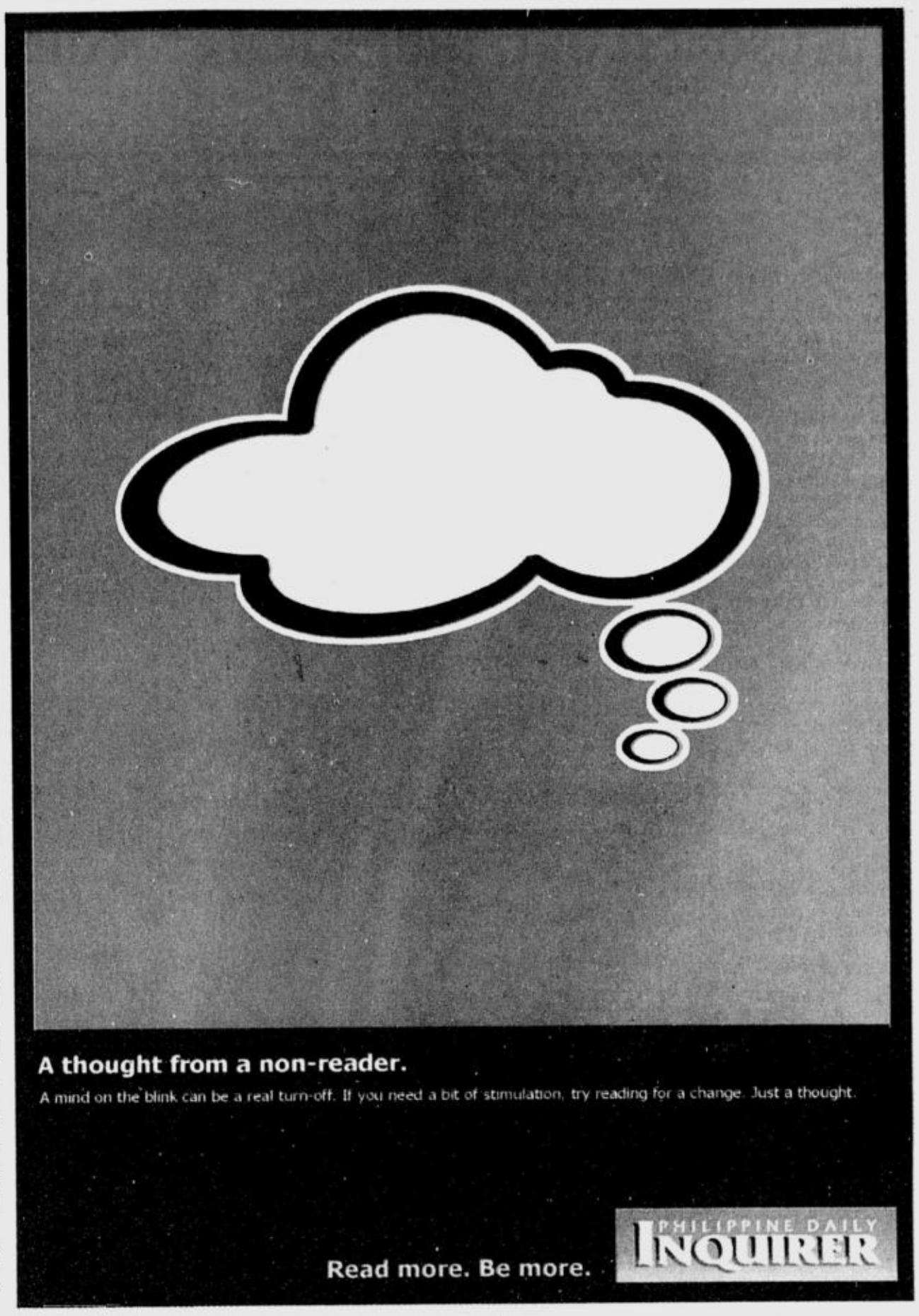
Which group of celebrity lovers—or haters—can you relate to? Let's hope it's the first. Happy Valentine's Day!

'Rome: Lost City of China'

DID AN ancient cohort of Roman warriors fight and work its way into China more than 2,000 years ago? On Feb. 18 at 2 a.m., 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., the Discovery Channel screens "Rome: The Lost City of China," a documentary that seeks to answer that provocative historical question.

In the inconspicuous village of Zhelaizhai in Gansu province, many residents have light-colored hair and Caucasian features. It is believed by some of them that the Romans were in China centuries ago, and that they are descendants of those ancient visitors.

The documentary examines the evidence, speaks to the theory's proponents and skeptics, and follows that villagers' quest for the truth.


A thought from a non-reader.
A mind on the blink can be a real turn-off. If you need a bit of stimulation, try reading for a change. Just a thought.
Read more. Be more.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

"Itaga mo sa bato!"

Sagot ng PSBank
ang pinaka-mababang
home loan interest rates

Secure your home loan now with PSBank's **LOWEST** rates ever for the 3- or 5-year interest fixing period.

INTEREST RATES		
FIXING PERIOD	PSBANK	OTHER BANKS
3 - year	11.50%	12.00% to 13.50%
5 - year	12.00%	13.25% to 15.00%

* Rates subject to change without prior notice.

MONTHLY AMORTIZATION		
FIXING PERIOD	PSBANK	OTHER BANKS
3 - year	P11,682	P12,002 to P12,984
5 - year	P12,002	P12,818 to P13,996

* For every loan amount of P1,000,000 with a 15-year loan term.

PSBank
PHILIPPINE SAVINGS BANK
A METROBANK SUBSIDIARY

PSBank Center, 777 Paseo de Roxas cor. Sedeño St., Makati City

Apply at any **PSBank** branch nationwide.
For more information, call 885-8208
loc. 8404, 8407 or 8409,
e-mail us at info@psbank.com.ph,
or visit www.psbank.com.ph

PSBank Home RATE PROTECT

Just sort it out, judge tells Nicole

SYDNEY—Nicole Kidman and two freelance photographers accused of stalking the Oscar-winning actress should try to resolve their problems out of court like "intelligent people," a judge said Friday.

Last month, Kidman won temporary restraining orders against Jamie Fawcett, 43, and Ben McDonald, 32, for allegedly stalking her and planting an electronic listening device outside her Sydney home.

The actress, who returned to Australia in January to film her new movie "Eucalyptus," claimed their aggressive pursuit of photographs made her feel like a prisoner in her luxurious harbor-side mansion. Kidman's chief bodyguard said he believed the bug was planted to intercept conversations that would tip off photographers as to her whereabouts.

Waste of time

The restraining order against Fawcett and McDonald—who were told not to stalk or harass the actress, and not to come within 20 meters (66 feet) of her home—expired on Friday when the photographers appeared before the court for a second time. Kidman has not attended either hearing.

Magistrate Lee Gilmour of Sydney's Waverley Local Court told the photographers she was not prepared "to waste any more of the court's time," and ordered them to sit down with police and, if necessary, contact Kidman to sort out their problems like "intelligent people."

"There's no issue that these gentlemen are quite entitled to go about their business and Ms. Kidman seems able to accept that," the judge said. But she said the three should try to avoid a "lengthy, unnecessary hearing" and settle the matter out of court.

Gilmour adjourned the matter while discussions took place, and ordered the parties report back to her later Friday. *AP*

GREAT OPM

Ryan Cayabyab, the San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra, and the San Miguel Master Chorale play timeless love songs live at the SM Megamall today, and at the Shangri-la Mall on Feb. 19. Performances start at 5.

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs old will be allowed in accompanied by parent or adult

$85M SUPER PRODUCTION FROM WARNER BROS.
NOW SHOWING

All I Ask Of You

NO MORE TALK OF DARKNESS;
FORGET THESE WIDE-EYED FEARS.
I'M HERE, NOTHING CAN HARM YOU --
MY WORDS WILL WARM AND CALM YOU.

LET ME BE YOUR FREEDOM,
LET DAYLIGHT DRY YOUR TEARS.
I'M HERE, WITH YOU, BESIDE YOU,
TO GUARD YOU AND TO GUIDE YOU...

SAY YOU LOVE ME
EVERY WAKING MOMENT,
TURN MY HEAD WITH
TALK OF SUMMERTIME...

SAY YOU NEED ME WITH YOU,
NOW AND ALWAYS...
PROMISE ME THAT ALL YOU SAY IS TRUE --
THAT'S ALL I ASK OF YOU...

LET ME BE YOUR SHELTER,
LET ME BE YOUR LIGHT.
YOU'RE SAFE, NO-ONE WILL FIND YOU --
YOUR FEARS ARE FAR BEHIND YOU...

ALL I WANT IS FREEDOM,
A WORLD WITH NO MORE NIGHT...
AND YOU, ALWAYS BESIDE ME,
TO HOLD ME AND TO HIDE ME...

THEN SAY YOU'LL SHARE WITH ME
ONE LOVE, ONE LIFETIME...
LET ME LEAD YOU
FROM YOUR SOLITUDE...

SAY YOU NEED ME WITH YOU HERE,
BESIDE YOU...
ANYWHERE YOU GO, LET ME GO TOO --
CHRISTINE, THAT'S ALL I ASK OF YOU...

SAY YOU'LL SHARE WITH ME ONE LOVE,
ONE LIFETIME...
SAY THE WORD
AND I WILL FOLLOW YOU....

SHARE EACH DAY WITH ME,
EACH NIGHT, EACH MORNING...

SAY YOU LOVE ME...
YOU KNOW I DO...
LOVE ME --
THAT'S ALL I ASK OF YOU...

ANYWHERE YOU GO
LET ME GO TOO...
LOVE ME --
THAT'S ALL I ASK OF YOU...

Music: Andrew Lloyd Webber
Lyrics: Charles Hart
Additional Lyrics: Richard Stilgoe
Based on the novel by Gaston Leroux

3 ACADEMY AWARDS® NOMINATIONS
ART DIRECTION
CINEMATOGRAPHY
ORIGINAL SONG

3 GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS
BEST PICTURE
BEST ACTRESS
BEST ORIGINAL SONG

The PHANTOM of the OPERA

Andrew Lloyd Webber's classic tale of terror, mystery and romance, seen by over 8 million people worldwide, comes to the big screen for the first time.

8 KEYS TO YOUR DIFFERENT INTERESTS

Only from CHEAPER BY HALF INQUIRER

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Parents are cautioned on the thematic content involving drug use and marital infidelity

OPENS FEB. 16

WINNER: GOLDEN GLOBE AWARD - BEST ACTOR
WINNER: SCREEN ACTOR'S GUILD - BEST ACTOR

JAMIE FOXX

THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE STORY OF RAY CHARLES

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
8th floor Shangrila Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633-2227 / 6337851 loc. 171

1 (DOLBY) ALFIE R13
2 (DOLBY) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX GP
3 (DOLBY) PHANTOM OF THE OPERA PG13
4 (DOLBY) SHALL WE DANCE R13

PREMIERE
(DOLBY) ASSAULT ON PRECINT 13 R13

CINEMA 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216

1 DREAMBOY
2 SOON TO OPEN
3 SOON TO OPEN
4 LET THE LOVE BEGIN

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY) RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED
5 RESERVED

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274

1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
3 DREAMBOY

stARmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986

1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
5 DREAMBOY

METROPOLIS star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285

1 ELEKTRA
2 ANG GALING GALING MO BABES
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 DREAMBOY
5 (DOLBY) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
6 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

stARmall Movies
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel (047) 237.7007

1 (DOLBY) ELEKTRA
2 DREAMBOY

Filinvest
FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DOLBY) DREAMBOY
2 (SDDS) SHALL WE DANCE
3 (DTS) ELEKTRA
4 GOLD (DTS) LET THE LOVE BEGIN
5 GOLD (DOLBY) PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
6 GOLD (SDDS) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
7 GOLD (DOLBY) DREAMBOY
8 (DIGITAL) LET THE LOVE BEGIN
9 (DIGITAL) ASSAULT ON PRECINT 13
10 (DIGITAL) ALFIE

Araneta Center CINEMA GUIDE
For Inquiries Pls Call TICKETNET 911-5555

GATEWAY CINEPLEX 10
Level 4, Gateway Mall
The First and Only Real Cineplex in the Philippines!
ALL THEATERS IN DOLBY EX ULTRA SOUND, FULL STADIUM SEATING AND EXCLUSIVE VISTA COMPUTER TICKET SYSTEM GUARANTEED SEATS, NO STANDING ROOM

LET THE LOVE BEGIN
DREAMBOY
PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
ALFIE
SHALL WE DANCE
A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT
ELEKTRA
MEET THE FOCKERS

ALI MALL CINEMAS
1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 DREAMBOY
3 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
4 ASSAULT ON PRECINT 13
5 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX

MARPLE PLAZA
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 DREAMBOY
3 KUNG FU HUSTLE
4 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY DTS) SHALL WE DANCE
2 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
3 (DTS DIGITAL) A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT
4 DREAMBOY

Cine Nepo
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121

1 DREAMBOY
2 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
3 (DOLBY) SHALL WE DANCE
4 (DTS) A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT

Cine Nepo
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489

1 DREAMBOY
2 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
3 (DOLBY) SCHOOL OF SEDUCTION
4 (DTS) DREAMBOY

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1 SO HAPPY TOGETHER
2 RAISE YOUR VOISE

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6963 or 72

1 (DOLBY) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
2 (DOLBY) PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
3 (DOLBY) DREAMBOY
4 (DOLBY) LET THE LOVE BEGIN

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 (DTS) DREAMBOY
3 (DOLBY) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
4 SHALL WE DANCE

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Binan) tel (049) 411.1146

1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 (DOLBY) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
3 (DTS) ELEKTRA
4 DREAMBOY

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1 DREAMBOY
2 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
3 (DOLBY) HAUNTED SPIRIT-2

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 DREAMBOY
3 (DOLBY) SCHOOL OF SEDUCTION
4 (DTS) ELEKTRA

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3327

1 ELEKTRA
2 DREAMBOY
3 (DOLBY) LET THE LOVE BEGIN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS) HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS
2 SEX SCANDAL
3 DREAMBOY
4 (DTS) ELEKTRA

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY) FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
2 KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
3 (DTS) LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 DREAMBOY
5 SHALL WE DANCE

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

1 ELEKTRA
2 DREAMBOY
3 (DTS) LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 (DOLBY) SCHOOL OF SEDUCTION

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
3 A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT
4 DREAMBOY

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1 (DTS) SCHOOL OF SEDUCTION
2 KUNG FU HUSTLE

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

KENKOY KLASIKS by Tony Velasquez celebrating 75 years

Liwayway 1.17.49 from the LOPEZ MUSEUM collection / Courtesy of KOMIKS CAFE / INQ EDITION 2.14.05

SA SYLID NINA KENKOY
BOY! HALIKA, ETO ANG PAG-KAIN NATIN.
GUTO TO TAIN... YOTO TA YO!
NAKU! SARAP.. DONAT, KEYK, SANWITS! DIYAN KA MUNA AT HIHINGI AKO NG KAPE. GUTOM NA RIN AKO, EH
YUM!
II ANG SAGLIT ANG LUMIPAS
BOY! ETO NA ANG KAPE! O! NASAAN KA?
HOY! ANO ANG GINAGAWA MO RIYAN? 'ASAN ANG PAGKAIN NATIN?
INANG! KINAIN LAHAT!
SUSMARYOSEP! HINA-HABOL NI TALAKITOK SI BOY!
WA! WA! WA!
HEY! WATSA-MARA?
KINAIN NIYANG LAHAT ANG PAG-KAIN! KAYAT SIYA ANG KAKAININ KO! INANG! GUTOM NA GUTOM NA 'KO!

Not a Valentine story

From page A2-1

—that they should not run away from their legal obligations."

The Las Piñas Prosecutor's Office said the Salvador brothers "conspired" when they convinced Decena into putting up the Hong Kong business.

On Dec. 27, 2001, the Phillip Salvador Freight and Remittance International Limited was formally registered, with Decena and Ramon as shareholders/directors.

Decena said she gave Phillip P5 million so he could "operate the business." But while she waited for word from him about developments, she said, Phillip was frequenting casinos and horse races in Macau.

The resolution on the case of the jeepneys stated that Ramon "falsely assured" Decena that he could generate up to P6,000 per day from the second-hand vehicles.

On Dec. 10, 2001, Decena said, she gave Ramon the money for the jeepneys. She never saw any earnings ("boundary"), she said.

Lessons

"I learned a lot from this experience," Decena said. "First is to fight when my name is at stake. I learned to be strong. It's hard [for me] to publicly come out with this, especially because I'm a private individual. Now, I just want a normal life for my kids and myself. Except for my youngest child, all my kids have now adjusted to the fact that Phillip and I are no longer together."

Decena also said she had found an ally in former actress Vivialyn Dungca, with whom Phillip has an 11-year-old daughter named Denise Ysabel.

Last year, Dungca filed a case before the Angeles City Regional Trial Court seeking child support.

"I find Ysa really nice. She spends time with my children. We love her truthfully. *Hindi ko pwedeng isama siya sa galit ko kay* Phillip," Decena said. "I even asked them to live in my house in Bulacan. My children requested that I send Ysa to my school, St. Ezekiel School, where she could finish high school. I will also give her a scholarship when she goes to college."

All-Digital Cinemas

MARKET! MARKET!

Cinemas! Cinemas!

The fun is in the finds

Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc.

Movie tickets for sale at the Ground Floor Fiesta Market and Customer Service Booth

Free Seating Cinemas: P70.00

1. Dreamboy
2. Alfie
3. Let the Love Begin
4. Elektra

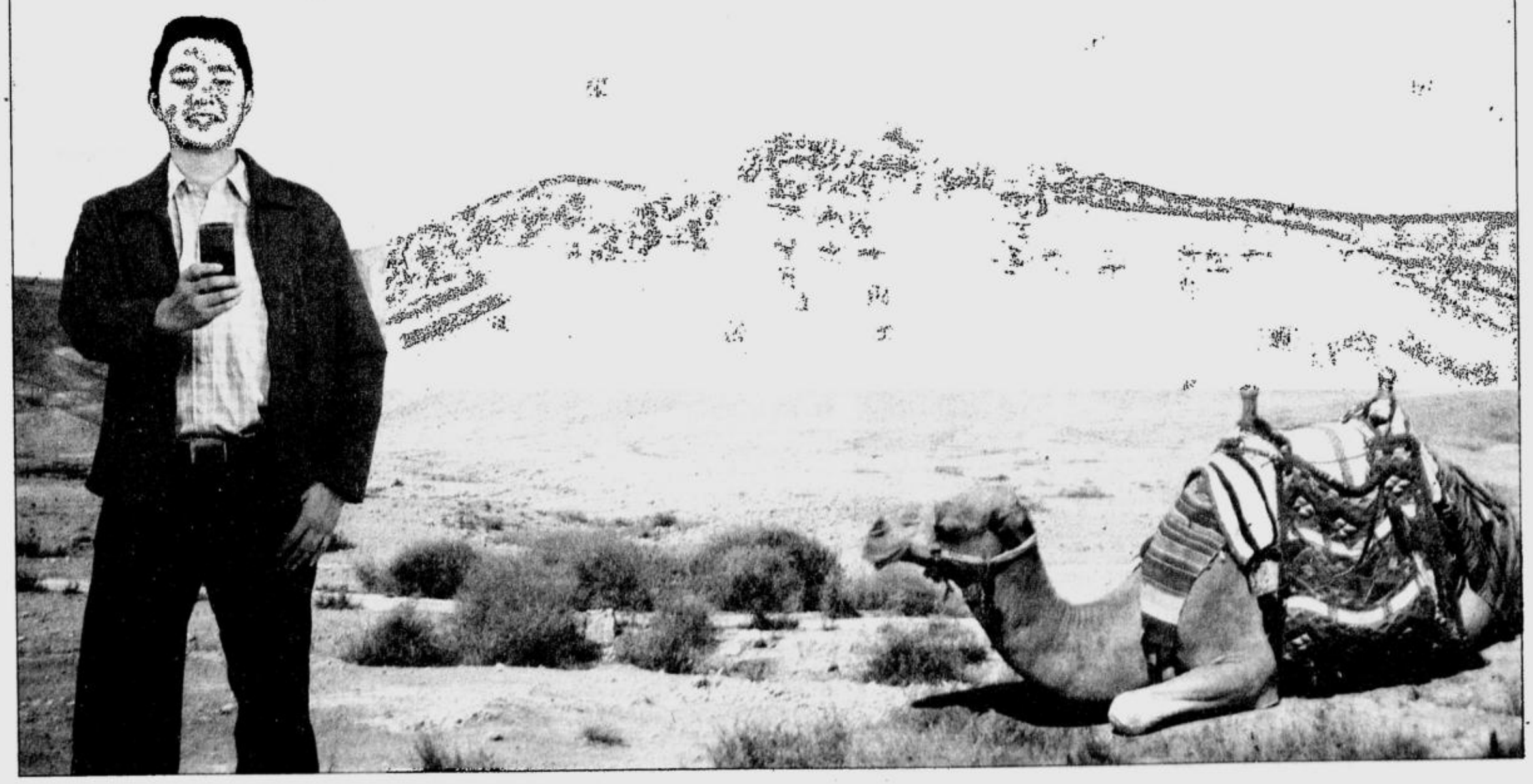
Guaranteed Seats Cinemas: P90.00

5. Shall we Dance
6. Flight of the Phoenix
7. The Phantom of the Opera

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.
Customer Service Hotline: 886-7516

PINAGKAKAGULUHAN!
THE NO.1 DATE MOVIE OF THE YEAR!

SA PNB RAPID REMIT, PAGLIPAT MO NG PAHINANG ITO...



See'em all!

AYALA CINEMAS THX

Movies/schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729-7777

ATC (Alabang Town Center)	G1 (Glorietta 1)	G4 (Glorietta 4)		GB3 (Greenbelt 3)	ACC (Ayala Center Cebu)
THX 1 THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA	1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN	1 DREAMBOY	5 SHALL WE DANCE	THX 1 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10, 11:30	1 DREAMBOY
2 LET THE LOVE BEGIN	2 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX	2 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX	6 LET THE LOVE BEGIN	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 2 THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA 3:00, 5:50, 8:40, 11:30	2 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
3 DREAMBOY	3 ELEKTRA	GUARANTEED SEATS THX 3 THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30	7 MEET THE FOCKERS	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30	3 A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT
4 SHALL WE DANCE		4 ALFIE		GUARANTEED SEATS 4 DREAMBOY 1:55, 4:15, 6:35, 8:55, 11:15	4 MADHOUSE
5 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX	4 DREAMBOY	GB1 (Greenbelt 1)		GUARANTEED SEATS 5 LET THE LOVE BEGIN 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50, 11:20	5
		1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40			
		2 DREAMBOY 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40			

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
Valentine Show Featuring Side A February 13, 2005	Valentines' Serenade at Food Establishments February 12-14,2005	Knowledge Depot School Fair Opening February 13, 2005

Entertainment LIVE!

GREENBELT 3 PARK	GREENBELT 3 LOBBY
Valentine Show featuring Bituin Escalante February 12, 2004	Vera Wang Gown Exhibit February 17-28, 2005

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents Busybody
at REP's GLOBE THEATER - Feb. 11,12,13,18,19,20,25,26,27

Ayala MUSEUM — Visit the New Ayala Museum located beside Greenbelt 4 along Makati Avenue. For inquiries, please call 757-7117.

Experience Show Business At Its Best!

Welcome to a **new level** of urban retail entertainment.

MyCinema is where you can **enjoy** the latest movies, hang-out and **party** or do impressive **presentations** and launches with the **well-chosen** few.

- 50 luxurious Forco seats
- State-of-the-art Dolby EX sound format
- Tastefully modern cocktail and theater area

GREENBELT 3 mycinema AYALA CENTER

The country's one & only private cinema.
Now it can be yours.

For inquiries & reservations, call 752-7862 or 757-3860 to 63

Watch the perfect date movie
Let The Love Begin
at the perfect dating place
Ayala Cinemas
and get the following treats:

FREE coupon from Facialhaus*
for every one time purchase of four (4) LET THE LOVE BEGIN movie tickets. Each coupon entitles you to either a FREE facial, back massage, hand or foot spa.
Participating outlets: Glorietta 1, Glorietta 4 & Greenbelt 1.

10% Discount*
on all cash food purchase at participating Pizza Hut Restaurants: *Glorietta 2, Park Square 1 & Greenbelt 1

*Promo period: Feb. 9 to 15, 2005
Per DTI NCR Permit No. AI - 123 Series of 2005

NOW SHOWING AT AYALA CINEMAS
For screening schedules, call 729-7777
MTRCB Rating: General Audien - Gi

Bloessence

Feb 17 & 18, 6PM
Feb 19, 11:30AM, 3PM & 6PM
Feb 20, 11:30AM, 2:30PM 4:30PM & 6:30PM
Feb 22, Meet&Greet
Glorietta 2 lobby
Glorietta Activity Center
Customer Service Hotlines
Glorietta 752 7272
Greenbelt 752-4853 to 54

Feb 25 - 27, 11AM, 3PM & 6PM
Activity Center
Customer Service Hotlines
842-2782 & 772-1800

March 4 - 5, 11AM, 4:30PM & 7PM
March 6, 11AM, 3:30PM & 6:30PM
Activity Center
Customer Service Hotline
(032) 231-5342 loc 324

AYALA MALLS Lovemall!

THE BATTLE FOR YOUR SOUL BEGINS ON FEBRUARY 16 AT

AYALA CINEMAS

"Heaven and hell are right here, behind every wall, every window, the world behind the world. And we're smack in the middle." - John Constantine

Ayala Cinemas
... Beyond Movies

CUSTOMER SERVICE TEXT HOTLINE: 0917-6095900 • CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE: Glorietta - 752-7272; from 10am to 8pm • Greenbelt - 757-4853; from 11am to 12mn • Alabang Town Center - 842-2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231-5342 loc 324 • AYALA CINEMA LINKS: For screening times call 729-7777.
Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart).
Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

AYALA CENTER · ALABANG TOWN CENTER · AYALA CENTER CEBU · Lovemall!

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS 635-5555 FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA — 632-9115/16

1 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA • THX — 1:15 4:10 7:05 10:00
2 LET THE LOVE BEGIN — 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
3 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX — 10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00
4 ALFIE — 10:50 1:05 3:20 5:35 7:50 10:00
5 DREAMBOY — 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
6 SHALL WE DANCE — 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00
7 ASSAULT ON PRECINT 13 — 12:20 2:40 5:00 7:20 9:40
8 A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT — 1:30 4:20 7:10 10:00
9 MEET THE FOCKERS — 1:05 3:20 5:35 7:50 10:00
10 ELEKTRA — 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

ERMITA — 536-7808 to 12

1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN — 10:15 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50
2 ASSAULT ON PRECINT 13 — 10:20 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50
3 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX — 10:35 12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 9:50
4 SHALL WE DANCE — 10:30 12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 9:50
5 ALFIE — 10:15 12:30 2:50 5:10
MEET THE FOCKERS — 7:30 9:50
6 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA — 10:10 1:05 4:00 6:55 9:50
7 DREAMBOY — 10:10 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

METRO EAST — 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 SHALL WE DANCE — 11:10 1:40 4:10 6:40 9:10
2 ASSAULT ON PRECINT 13 — 12:05 2:15 4:20 6:35 9:00
3 MEET THE FOCKERS — 11:20 1:40 4:00 6:20 9:00
4 ELEKTRA — 10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00
5 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA — 10:25 1:25 4:25 7:25 10:30
6 DREAMBOY — 11:20 2:00 4:40 7:20 10:15
7 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX — 11:20 1:40 4:00 6:20 8:30
8 LET THE LOVE BEGIN — 11:45 2:30 5:15 8:00 10:30

NOVALICHES — 935-3229/31

1 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA — 11:20 2:20 5:20 8:25
2 LET THE LOVE BEGIN — 11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:00
3 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX — 10:20 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25
4 WITHOUT A PADDLE — 11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 8:55
5 DREAMBOY — 10:20 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25
6 ELEKTRA — 12:30 2:30 4:30 6:30 8:30
7 ASSAULT ON PRECINT 13 — 11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 8:55
8 SHALL WE DANCE — 11:00 1:00 3:00

PIONEER — 687-5378

1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
3 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
4 DREAMBOY

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575 · CAINTA 240-4661

1 HELLWOLF
2 DREAMBOY
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 SHALL WE DANCE
3 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
4 DREAMBOY

CHECK THIS OUT

Exclusive
SCREENING

From the makers of DUDA/DOUBT, Grupong Sinehan Inc., comes another Crisaldo Pablo's digital movie about love and relationship...

Robinsons Movieworld METRO EAST
February 16-22

Starring: Jet Alcantara, Anday Ranay, Rey Pumaloy, John Lapus and introducing Ray An Duloy

MTRCB Rating: R-18

STA. ROSA (049) 837-0907 · LIPA (043) 757-3664 (043) 312-5870

1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
3 IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE
4 ELEKTRA
5 DREAMBOY
1 DREAMBOY
2 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
3 SHALL WE DANCE
4 A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT
5 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX

DASMARIÑAS (046) 852-2125 (046) 416-4332 · ANGELES (045) 892-2348

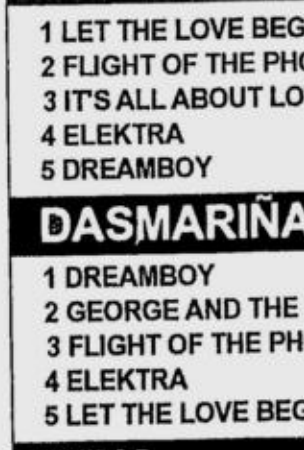
1 DREAMBOY
2 GEORGE AND THE DRAGON
3 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
4 ELEKTRA
5 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
1 A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT
2 DREAMBOY
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 SHALL WE DANCE

IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188 · STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 961-5270

1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX
3 WITHOUT A PADDLE
4 ELEKTRA
5 DREAMBOY
6 ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13
1 GEORGE AND THE DRAGON
2 DREAMBOY
3 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
4 MEET THE FOCKERS
5 A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT
6 MADHOUSE

BACOLOD (034) 441-0453 (034) 441-0459 · ILOILO (033) 336-8070

1 ELEKTRA
2 RAISE YOUR VOICE
3 DREAMBOY
4 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
5 MADHOUSE
6 A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT
1 LET THE LOVE BEGIN
2 IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE
3 RACING STRIPES
4 DREAMBOY
5 SCHOOL FOR SEDUCTION
6 KUNG FU HUSTLE



The Perfect Gift All Year Round

A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

Get Special discounts for volume purchases!

For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

A2-6

UPCOMING RELEASES

Almost made it

LOS ANGELES—Will Smith waited a long time to bring his bottomless charisma to a romantic comedy. He should have waited longer, at least until the hitches were ironed out of "Hitch," an occasionally cute trifle that had all the ingredients to be a great date flick.

Instead, "Hitch" offers a few laughs and an odd exchange between Smith and co-star Eva Mendes before veering into a foolish plot conflict that drains all credibility and chokes off whatever goodwill the movie built up in its first half.

With no clear notion of where to take the story, director Andy Tennant ("Sweet Home Alabama") and first-time screenwriter Kevin Bisch let "Hitch" meander to tiresome lengths.

Playing a professional "date doctor" helping men snare the women of their dreams, Smith's enormous charm carries the movie much of the way.

"With no guile and no game, there is no girl," is one of Hitch's many pithy mottoes.

When Hitch finally meets his own dream woman, gossip columnist Sara Melas (Mendes), the movie begins to wallow in superficial romantic mush.

Because this is a Will Smith flick, and a romance opening over Valentine's weekend to boot, audiences may jam theaters just the same. *AP*

Not exactly a date movie

NEW YORK—The infamous adult movie "Deep Throat," still banned in many US , is set to be re-released on the back of a documentary about the 1972 low-budget porn flick that became a mainstream phenomenon.

Las Vegas-based Arrow Productions, which owns the copyright to the film that made its star, Linda Lovelace, a household name, said it was striking re-mastered prints of the movie that would be ready for release in US cinemas by Feb. 18.

Shot in just six days by a former New York hairdresser, Gerard Damiano, "Deep Throat" cost $25,000 and, in the intervening 33 years, has grossed an estimated $600 million dollars worldwide—making it the most profitable movie of all time.

Ten of the prints being struck by Arrow will be of the original XXX-rated version, while five others will be edited to earn a modern R rating, allowing access to children under 17 if accompanied by an adult.

Arrow owner Raymond Pistol said he was confident that "Deep Throat" could pass any censors' challenge to its political and literary merit.

Lovelace—real name was Linda Boreman — died in a car crash in Denver in 2002. *AFP*

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TV GUIDE

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY 10 pm after Big News

American Idol

Watch it with America!

ABC ibc tayo

ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABS-CBN 2				Showbiz No. 1	Sandara's Romance	Masked Rider Ryuki		Gatekeepers	TV Patrol		Spirits	Krystala	Til Death Do Us Part	Hiram	Save The Last Dance	OK Fine! Whatever			Insider
NBN	Value Vision				Teledyaryo	Value Vision	Next Stop			Network Forum		Teledyaryo		The Working President	Concert at the Park			Dial M	
ABC 5			Problema Nyo, Sagot Ko	Art Is-Kool	Anime Ring Kaisho		Anime Ring Kaisho		Sentro	Friends	The Apprentice				Big News	Popsi		Extreme Island	Billboard On-Air
GMA 7		Saang Sulok Ng Langit	Joyride	Glass Shoes	One Piece	Knock Out	Slam Dunk	24 Oras		Extra Challenge		Mulawin		Starstruck	Stairway To Heaven	Lagot Ka, Isusumbong Kita			Saksi
RPN 9	Metro TV Shopping			Hey Arnold!	As Told By Ginger	Wild Thornberries	Sponge Bob	Entertainment Tonight	Wrestling		NBA On RPN					Newswatch Now	Sex & the City		
IBC 13		Lifestyle		EZ Shop		Home Shopping Network	IBC Express Balita	Lifestyle		Chowtime Na!		V League				Good Take	IBC News Tonite	Linawin Natin	
Solar Nickelodeon	Blues Clues	Wow Rugrats	Fairly Odd Parents	Stamball SpongeBob SquarePants	All That	Restol Smackuroony Toonies	Zeta Project	Mucha Lucha!	Spiderman	Stargate SG1 Fairly Odd Parents	SpongeBob SquarePants	Wasabi As Told By Ginger	Nick Mix						Rugrats
MYX		Urban MYX		Pop MYX	OPM MYX	Take 5	My MYX	MYX Daily Top Ten		Mellow MYX	Rock MYX	Pop MYX	Urban MYX	OPM MYX Countdown		My MYX	MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX	Mellow MYX
ETC		The O.C.		Saturday Night Live		Starting Over		NBC Nightly News	Knock First	Will & Grace	JKX	Last Comic Standing		Queer Eye For A Straight Guy		Who Wants To Marry My Dad		Nip/ Tuck	
Cinema One		Kung Ako Na Lang Sana				Bakit Pa Kita Minahal				Dahil May Isang Ikaw				Bottera				Ano Bang Meron Ka?	
Studio 23	Bewitched	Survivor: Thailand						Ragnarok	Project Arms	Wazzup Wazzup	World's Craziest Video	Jake 2.0		Charmed		News Central			Travel Time
AXN		24		24				Samurai X	Samurai X	Basshunter III		Fear Factor		The Outer Limits		24		24	
Star World	Weird TV	The Bold & The Beautiful		American Idol		The Right Stuff II Ally McBeal	Rated X	The Simpsons	The Drew Carey Show	Star News Asia	Friends	The 46th Annual 2005 Grammy Awards Live		The 46th Annual 2005 Grammy Awards Live					
CNN				Business International		Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	Business International		World News Asia		World News		World News Asia		World News	World Sport
National Geographic				Secret China		Planet Wild	Critter-cam Wildtech Adventure	The Snake Wranglers	Croc Chronicles With Dr Brady Barr	Wild		About Asia		National Geographic Specials		Killer Instinct		Totally Wild	Wildlife Diary
Solar Sports		In This Corner		KOTV Classics		Freestyle Motocross		Monster Jam		Sagupaan		GWS ep.6-2005	NBA TV Daily	NBA Game Dallas @ Seattle					NBA Action
Lifestyle Network	Country Style	Interiors By Design	Decorating With Style	Decorating Cents	Molto Marlo	Sweet Dreams	30 Minute Meals	Bill Boggs Corner	Unwrapped	Food 911									
HBO			Sense And Sensibility				Touching Wild Horses (5.45 PM)				Two Weeks Notice (7.20 PM)			Huk				Gigli (11:15PM)	
Star Movies			Hollywood One On One	The Kid Stays In The Picture			The Flintstones (5.45 PM)			Down With Love (7.15 PM)				Shakespeare In Love				Far From Heaven	
Cartoon Network	Scooby-Doo Show	The All New Popeye Show		Tom & Jerry Show	Baby Looney Tunes	Sylvester & Tweety Mysteries	Police Academy	Ho-Man & The Masters Of The Universe	Static Shock	Yu-Gi-Oh!	Gundam Seed	The Looney Tunes Show		The Powerpuff Girls	Codename: Kids Next Door	Mr. T	Josie And The Pussycats	Boomerang: The Superfriends	Yu-Gi-Oh!
ESPN		ESPN Great Outdoor Games				Spanish Football League 2004/05				Eng. Premier League Highlights 04/05		Sportscenter Taiwan	AFC/NFL Pro Bowl						Sportscenter Asia
Disney Channel	Mr. Bean: The Animated Series	Totally Spies	The Sleepover Club	Art Attack/Unfalkative Bunny	That's So Raven	Martin Mystery	Totally Spies	Kim Possible	Mr. Bean: The Animated Series	Lilo & Stitch/Unfalkative Bunny	Aladdin			My Wife And Kids	That's So Raven	According To Jim	America's Funniest Home Video	Aladdin	
Cinemax	Deadly Messages			Sherlock (4.15 PM)			Dolores Claiborne					White Rush			Combustion			Eight Legged Freaks (11.05PM)	
Hallmark Channel	Mad About You	Just Desserts				Play With Me Sesame	Sesame Street		Bewitched	Judging Amy		Child Of Our Time		I Do But I Don't			Just Cause (10.35PM)		Judging Amy (11.25PM)
Discovery Channel		American Chopper		Extreme Engineering		Wild Science		Ultimate Discovery		Unsolved History				Wild Discovery		Ultimate Discovery		Civilisations	
MTV Philippines			Hangin Out at MTV		MTV Most Wanted		TRL/Making the Video: J Lo: Get Right	MTV Dyes		The Assistant	MTV Fashionista	Punk'D	Rich Girls	MTV Alive	Brand New	VH1 Video Collections			
Sports Plus						Racesworld		WTA Toray Pan Pacific Japan Stnals				Italian Serie A		NFL Delayed Telecast		AT&T Pebble Beach Nat'l Pro-AM Day4			
EWTN	SL Matthew	Angelus (3.15 PM)	Benediction And Devotion	Story Keepers	Image Of God	The Holy Rosary With Mother Angelica and the Nuns Of Our Lady Of Angels													

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

TANONG NG BAYAN

MARTIAL LAW VICTIMS, DAPAT BANG BAYARAN?

CELLCARD KADA ARAW, CELLPHONE KADA LINGGO! TEXT 2910 NOW!

TUWING HUWEBES pagkatapos ng American Idol

Dito lang sa ABC

INQ TV INQ TV

...TANGGAP NA NI LUZVIMINDA ANG PADALA MO.

PNB RAPID REMIT MAY TEXT ALERT NA!

Saan mang lupalop ng mundo ka mapunta, may PNB kang makikita. Wala ng pasikot-sikot pa.

At sa bagong Text Alert ng PNB Rapid Remit, ite-text na ang padala. Makukuha mo sa bilis, basta Text Alert ng PNB!

ANG SUBOK NANG SIGURADO. MAY SERBISYONG BAGO!

- 324 Domestic Branches
- 96 Offices Abroad
- 682 Correspondent Banks Worldwide
- Most trusted remittance service for more than 10 years

PANA

PNB

www.pnb.com.ph

We manage risks, we provide opportunities.

MYGLOBE exclusive

THE WAGER BETWEEN HEAVEN AND HELL IS ON EARTH

KEANU REEVES

CONSTANTINE

www.constantinemovie.com

In Theatres February 16, 2005

HELL WANTS HIM. HEAVEN WON'T TAKE HIM. MYGLOBE HAS HIM.

TEXT CONSTANTINE TO 2346 AND GET THE CHANCE TO WIN ₱100,000 THIS WEEKEND!

WALLPAPER: Text **W** <keyword> to **2346**
Ex: text W conhelp

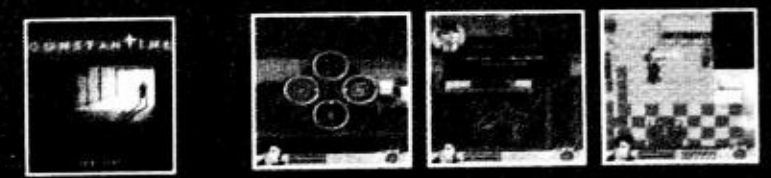
conhelp | conescape | midniteface

conred | conthink | frhenlook

angelaswim | confire | congabriel

contouch | conface | conpose

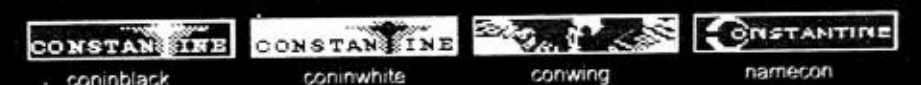
JAVA GAME:



TEXT CARDS: Text **TC** <keyword> to **2346** Ex: text TC namecon

namecon | concross | consign | conwingblack | conspark

ICONS: Text **L** <keyword> to **2346** Ex: text L coninblack

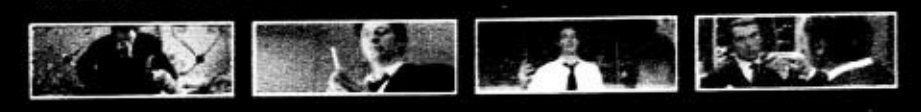


coninblack | coninwhite | conwing | namecon

TRUE TONES:

WAP Link	Content
possessed	(devil's words)
die young	You're going to die young because...
2mins in hell	Take it from me -- two minutes in hell is a lifetime.
breaks the rule	So when a half-breed breaks the rules...
collect myself	...I will come up here to collect myself
no turning back	if you do this, there's no turning back.
they see you	You see them, they see you.
devil haunt	(muffled sound)
phone ring	(different phones ringing simultaneously)
scream	(scream)

VIDEO STREAMING*:



To download the Constantine Java Game, Video Streaming clips and True Tones: Go to the myGlobe WAP site. Under **What's Hot**, click on **Constantine**.
Rate per download: P15.00 for icons and text cards, P20.00 for wallpaper, P30.00 for premium true tone, P50.00 for Java Game, P0.10/kb for Video Streaming.

Activate MMS and GPRS on your phone now!
1. For a list of compatible handsets, send NOKIA, ERICSSON or SAMSUNG (depending on your handset model) to 2365. Regular text messaging charges apply.
2. Text GO <handset model> to 2951 to get your phone's settings. Ex. GO N3650. For Nokia 6170, 6630, 6230, 6600, 6820, 6260, 7200 and 7610,text GO <handset model>,,1234 to 2951. Make sure that you type in the two commas before the 1234 PIN.
3. Enter 1234 when asked for PIN to save the settings.
4. Send an MMS message for only P3.00 to activate the service.

VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES

making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE

*Video Streaming not part of the promo

See flyers for details. Promo extended until Feb. 27, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0015, Series of 2005.

ENTERTAINMENT

Text us your feedback: inquirer ent name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

The language of love is often brutal

The characters are nasty but they're so real, and their stories are so true

By Constantino C. Tejero

BE REALISTIC. No one's perfect. You can't have both the sun and the moon.

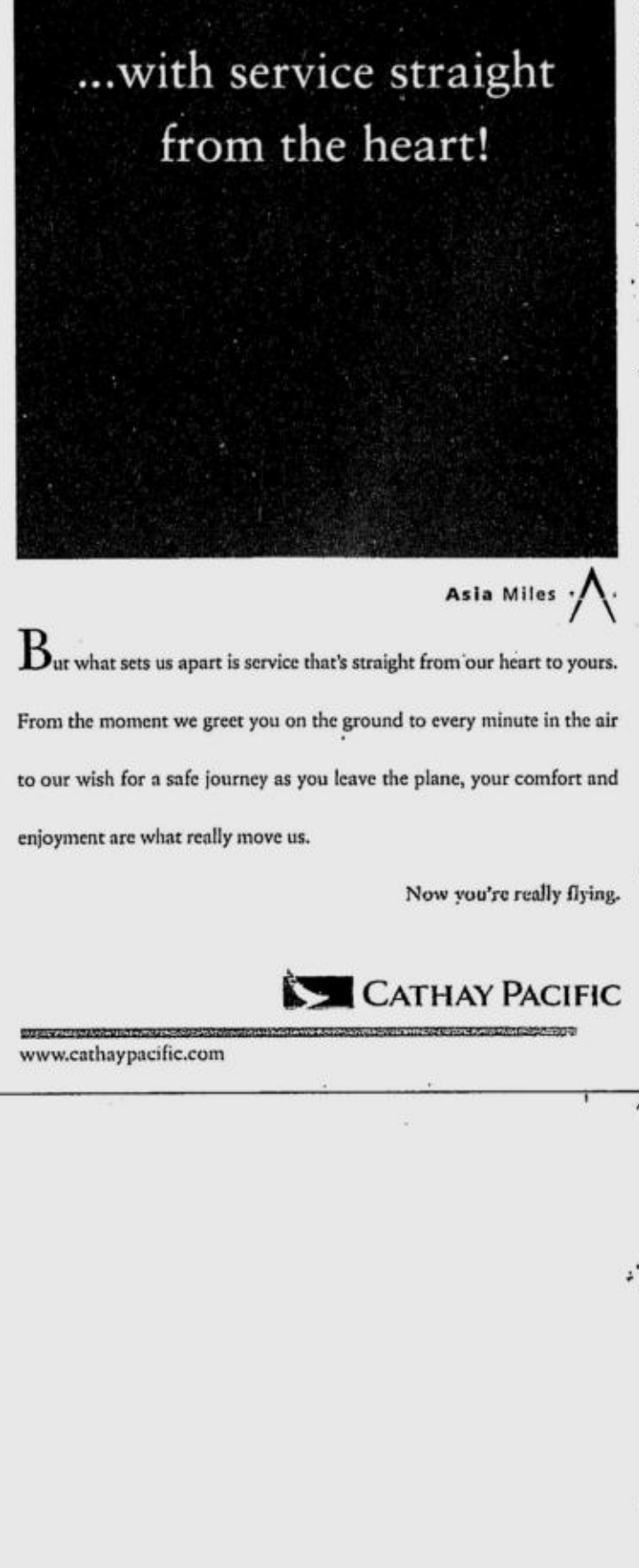
That's what Mike Nichols seems to be saying in his newest scalding analysis of relationships, "Closer." Scripted by Patrick Marber based on his play, the film is not quite your updated version of "Scenes from a Marriage" but something like it, a blend of Bergman, Albee, Woody Allen and—what? Dostoyevsky?

It concerns a romantic roundelay between two couples: journalist Dan (Jude Law) and stripper Alice (Natalie Portman); photographer Anna (Julia Roberts) and dermatologist Larry (Clive Owen)—an unlikely quartet entangled in relationships that are physically demeaning and spiritually exhausting.

This film is a vivid portrait of a love affair, giving away its unspoken and unspeakable details, scratching every wound, peeling every scab. It is an often truthful

THE LANGUAGE/ A3-3

ADVANCE
Laser Treatment
Stimulates the skin increasing collagen and elastin production, that will help your skin combat ageing, strengthening tissues thus eliminating wrinkles, fine lines and laugh lines.
Worrying about WRINKLES and other SIGNS of AGEING?
LET'S FACE IT
THE ONE STOP FACIAL SALON
SOON TO OPEN: CITY MALL, OLONGAPO & ROBINSONS PIONEER, MANDALUYONG



Asia Miles

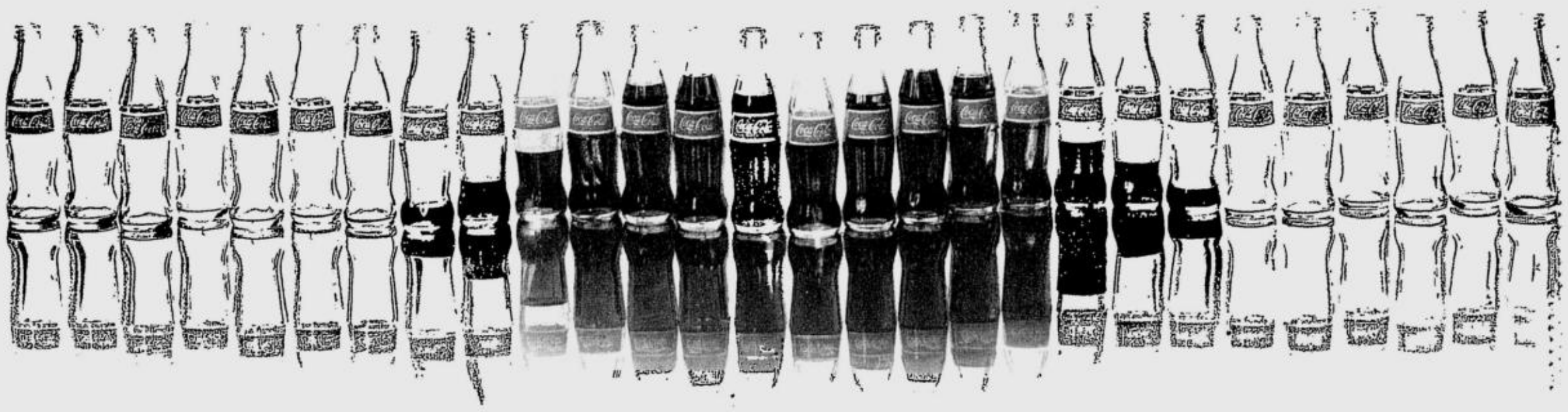
But what sets us apart is service that's straight from our heart to yours.

From the moment we greet you on the ground to every minute in the air to our wish for a safe journey as you leave the plane, your comfort and enjoyment are what really move us.

Now you're really flying.

CATHAY PACIFIC

www.cathaypacific.com



Share some

"Coca-Cola" and the design of the Contour Bottle are registered trademarks of The Coca-Cola Company. ©2005 The Coca-Cola Company.

'Lovestruck' winners announced today

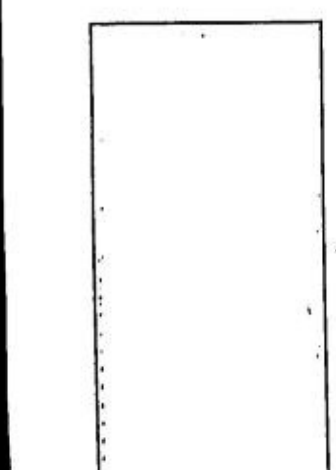
SHOW TIME

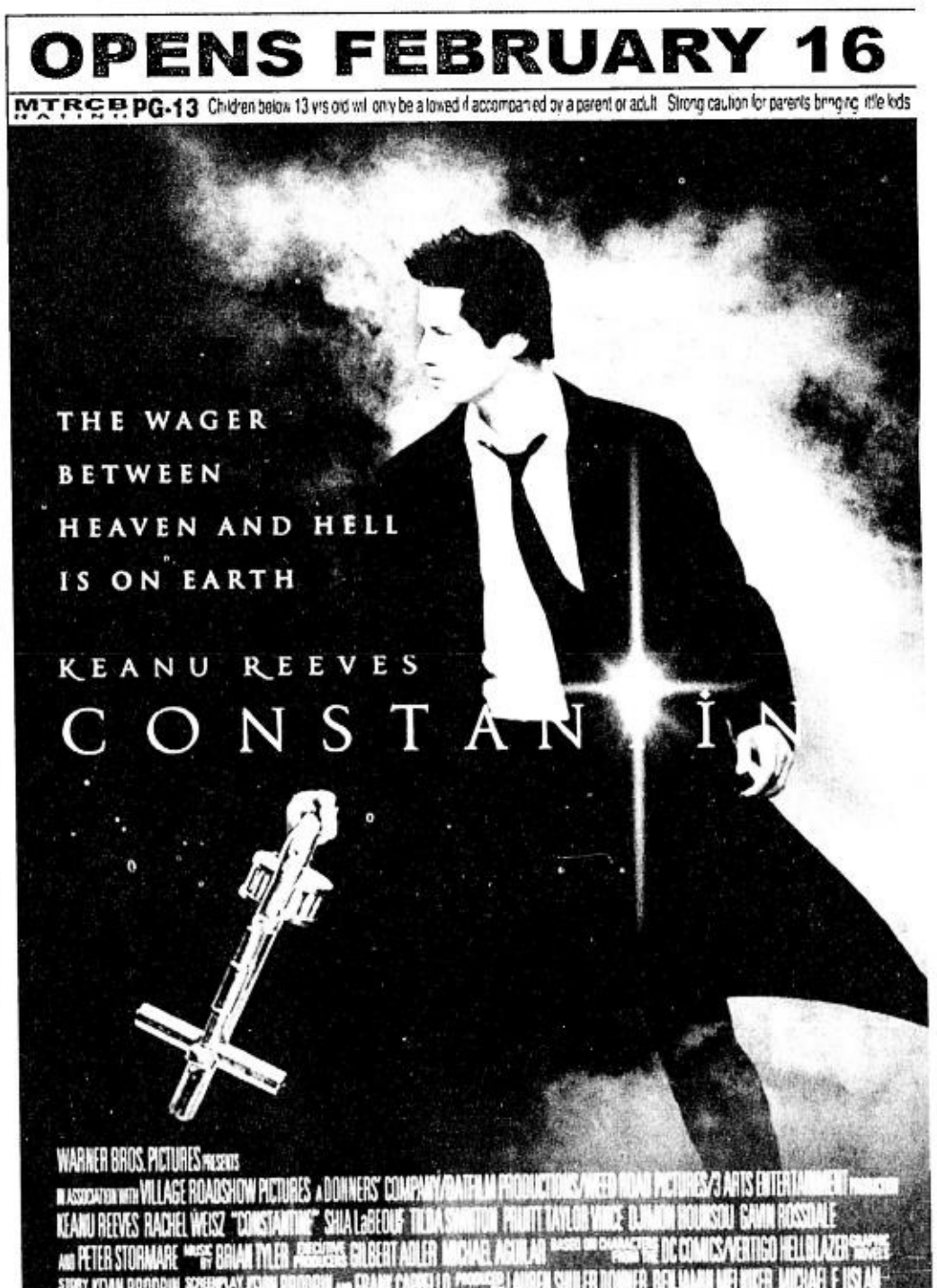
GMA 7's reality-based *artista* search holds its "Happy, Happy StarStruck Lovestruck" show today at Market, Market to announce the winners of its Valentine promo.

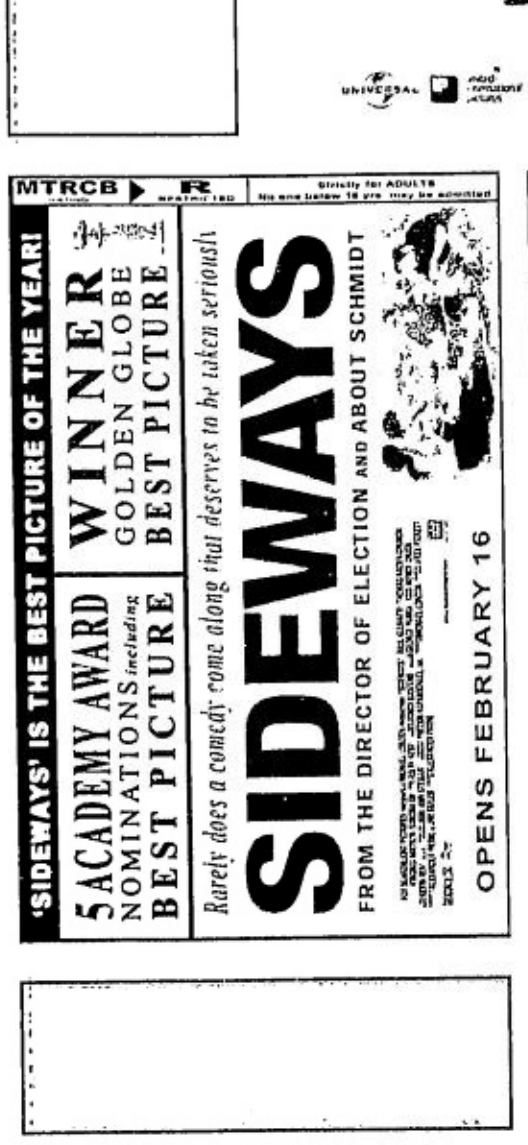
One texter and one PLDT voter from out of those who participated by picking their duo of choice among the "Final Four"—A for LJ and Mike, B for LJ and CJ, C for Ryza and Mike, or D for Ryza and CJ—will win two front-row tickets each to the "StarStruck Judgment Night" special on Feb. 20 at the Araneta Coliseum.

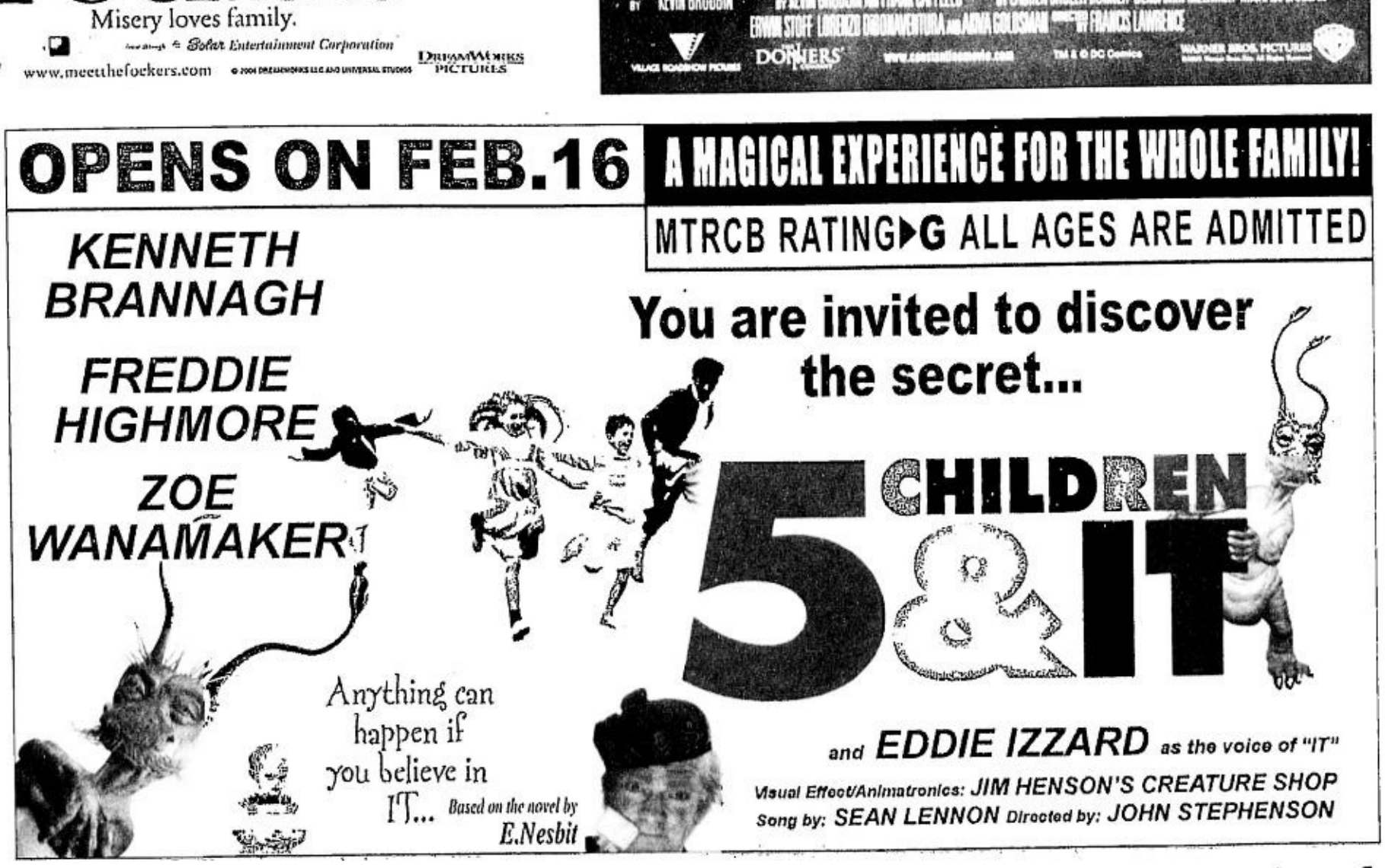
Today's promo special kicks off the "StarStruck" grand finals week. The live episode on Feb. 18 will be the moment of truth for finalists CJ Muere, LJ Reyes, Mike Tan and Ryza Cenon.

MTRCB R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
THE BEST REVIEWED ACTION PICTURE OF THE YEAR
THIRD WEEK
"Action-packed! Strong performances!"
It gets a grip on the audience early and never lets go... -Roger Ebert, CHICAGO SUN TIMES
"Emotionally compelling, visually stunning, superbly acted."
-Harper Barnes, ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH
"Spiked with nerve-jangling energy."
-Robert Denerstein, ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS
"'AP13' is a gritty, fast-paced action film!"
-Jack Garner, ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT
"Ethan's best action flick since 'Training Day.' It's Laurence's best role by far since the original 'Matrix'" -Tom Long, THE DETROIT NEWS
'Matrix' Laurence Fishburne is brilliantly ruthless." -MAXIM MAGAZINE
ETHAN HAWKE
LAURENCE FISHBURNE
ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13




OPENS FEBRUARY 16
MTRCB PG-13 Children below 13 yrs old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult Strong caution for parents bringing little kids
THE WAGER BETWEEN HEAVEN AND HELL IS ON EARTH
KEANU REEVES
CONSTANTINE
WARNER BROS. PICTURES PRESENTS


MTRCB R
'SIDEWAYS' IS THE BEST PICTURE OF THE YEAR!
5 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS including BEST PICTURE
WINNER GOLDEN GLOBE BEST PICTURE
SIDEWAYS
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTION AND ABOUT SCHMIDT
OPENS FEBRUARY 16


OPENS ON FEB.16
A MAGICAL EXPERIENCE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
MTRCB RATING G ALL AGES ARE ADMITTED
KENNETH BRANNAGH
FREDDIE HIGHMORE
ZOE WANAMAKER
You are invited to discover the secret...
5 CHILDREN & IT
Anything can happen if you believe in IT... Based on the novel by E.Nesbit
and EDDIE IZZARD as the voice of "IT"
Visual Effect/Animatronics: JIM HENSON'S CREATURE SHOP
Song by: SEAN LENNON Directed by: JOHN STEPHENSON

The language of love...

From page A3-1

dissection of love, sex, and the power game every relationship entails, revealed through a rapid series of vignettes of self-abnegation, denunciation, humiliation and devotion.

The tongue-lashing is breathless, the verbal abuse relentless. Here sex is politics, and love a negotiation. The sound of sex may be alternately harsh and gentle, but the language of love is often brutal.

The dialogue is funny in an obnoxious kind of way. In a scene of sadomasochistic intensity, the self-lacerating Larry, hitherto quite cool and now frenetic, pushes the retreating, equally distraught Anna into giving him a blow-by-blow account of her and her lover's behavior in bed, then compares himself as a lover.

"He's gentler," says the cornered Anna, "and sweeter."

"Thank you for your honesty," replies the resigned Larry, then furiously: "Now f— off and die, you f—ed-up slut!"

The sudden shift of emotions is breathtaking. During a confrontation, after a monotonous harangue, out of nowhere he shouts at her lover: "You writer! You liar!"

Most of the time these people are nasty, but you still care about what happens next or who ends up with whom. And it's not necessarily because you care for the actors but that the characters are quite real and their story so true.

ROBERTS: Honesty not the best policy

OWEN: Most impressive

Eternal outsider

The film delivers exceptional ensemble performances, particularly by Owen and Portman, who have been nominated for the Oscar Best Supporting Actor and Actress, respectively. The most impressive is Owen, as he has been given most of the gripping situations which require him to act or react with intensity and a variety of emotions.

He is infuriating in that scene with Roberts (resembling the notorious confrontation scene of Julianne Moore and Matthew Modine in Altman's "Short Cuts"); demoniacal in his final confrontation with Law; pathetic in the scene where Portman does a lap dance for him; embarrassing in his first encounter with Roberts; charming in that soon-to-be-famous Internet chat with Law. In short, this guy is soon to become a leading man.

The film properly belongs to Nichols' early oeuvre, which includes "Carnal Knowledge," "The Graduate," "Catch-22," but especially "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" Those are among the edgiest Hollywood movies we've ever had the pleasure of watching.

(The filmmaker's edginess must have its origin in his origin. Nichols is a Russian Jew born in Berlin, who fled the Nazis and settled in New York—in other words, Hollywood's eternal outsider. He is one of those US filmmakers of foreign descent who, through the century, have been turning out the finest American movies, incisively probing American society, history and culture: Chaplin, Ford, Murnau, Leni, Seastrom, Malick, Kazan, Coppola, Scorsese, Kubrick, Polanski, Ulmer, Altman, Sirk, Ophüls, Wyler, Wilder, Stiller, Von Sternberg, Von Stroheim, Hitchcock, Lubitsch, Mamoulian, Cassavetes, Nicholas Ray, Milos Forman, Peter Weir, Wayne Wang.)

LAW: Gentler, sweeter

For adults only

"Carnal Knowledge" was one of the first adult movies we saw in the 1970s. The title, obviously, was a strong come-on, so we just had to disguise ourselves as adult by borrowing someone's eyeglasses, and fib about our age to the ticket-seller to be admitted into the moviehouse.

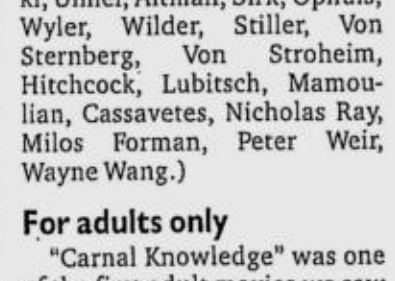
We don't remember anything scandalous about that film now. There was nothing close to a skin flick, except for a scene where Jack Nicholson was describing to Arthur Garfunkel how his girlfriend jacked him off.

This is typical of a Nichols film, that it may be about sex, yet it refrains from showing copulation on screen. You get it only from the dialogue, but in full force, much like Bibi Anderson's famous monologue about a sex orgy on a beach in Bergman's "Persona."

New York Times critic Vincent Canby says of "Carnal Knowledge": "Although the film is often pricelessly funny and accurate, it is about as warm and lovable as a confession made on an analyst's couch. That is to say that warmth and lovability are beside the point of the film, which is merciless toward both its men and its women in order to reach some kind of understanding of them, of their capacities for self-delusion, and for the casual infliction of pain."

That, of course, is also especially true of "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" And that, too, should be a precise appraisal of "Closer," another of Nichols' black comedies, a resolutely antiromantic portrait of romantic love.

(Romantic couples—husbands and wives, boyfriends and girlfriends, the engaged and committed, the taken and betrothed, those about to take the plunge, even the promiscuous ones, all romantic items, in fact—are advised to watch this film together and see if you could get any closer.)



'LOVE, Soul & Laughter' at Merk's

Love, laughter at Merk's

LAST call for the Valentine specials at Merk's Bar Bistro.

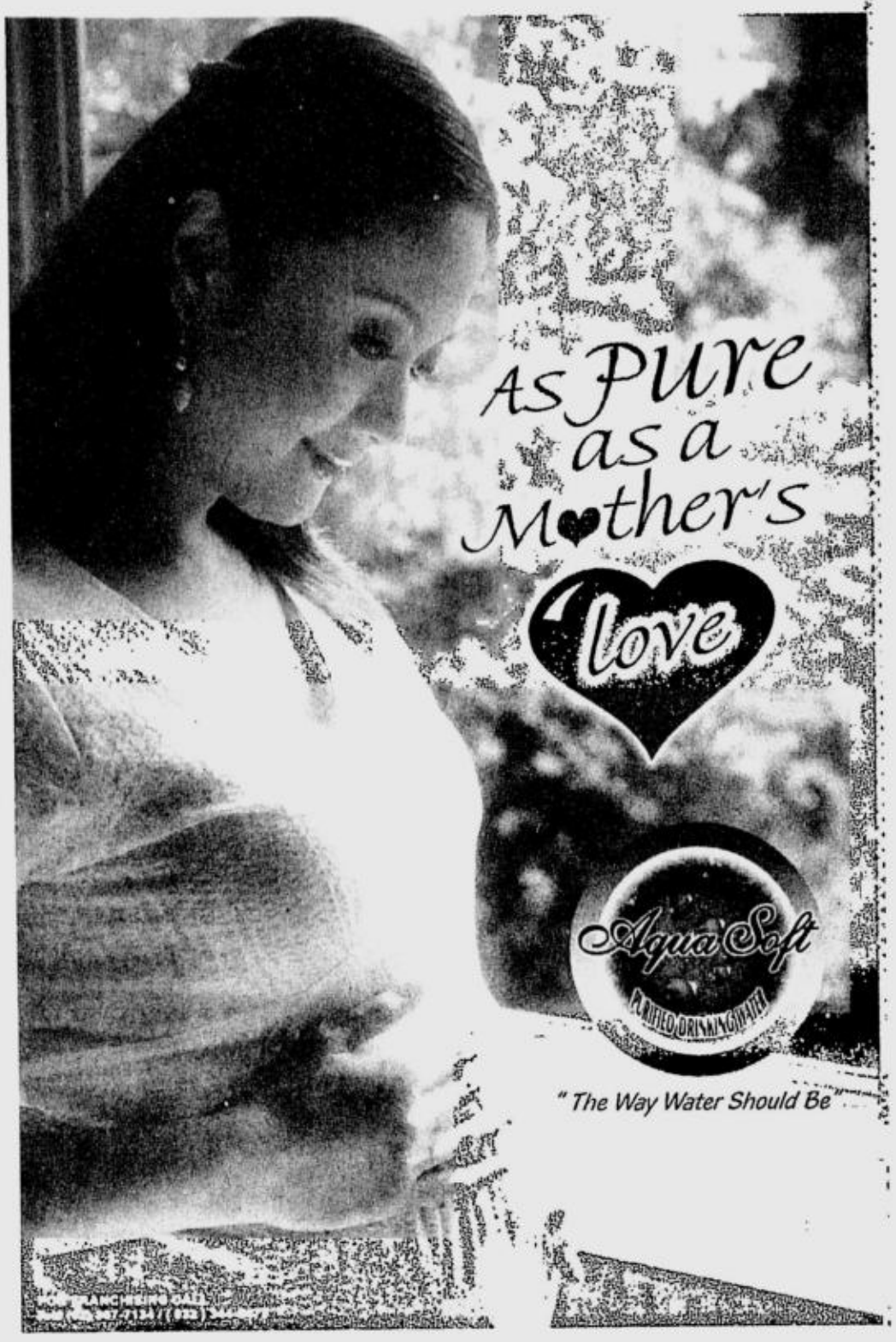
Aretha & the Souled Out Band, featured artists on Saturday's trip down memory lane, returns onstage tonight in a case of family Day of Hearts celebration.

The show is titled "Love, Soul & Laughter," and stars divas Aretha and Bernie Uy.

Love conquers all and laughter is the best medicine. Aretha and Bernie is out to prove that these truisms have not changed—not in the realm of soul, rhythm and blues.

"Aretha and I are at our very best doing soul," said Bernie. "The bonus is, this evening wraps up with loving and laughing as well."

Call 757-4720 or (0917)824-1465.



Going out?
to work, school or anywhere ?

Feminine freshness should be in the bag!

Intima
The first NO-RINSE intimate feminine spray

- Has Lactic Acid to balance the vagina's natural pH and sodium lactate for anti-bacterial action.
- Just squirt gently, wipe and go.
- Use it as often as you need to.
- No water, no "tabo" needed.
- Affordable. Approximately 500 squirts in one bottle.
- Small and handy, fits practically any bag.
- Available in Fresh and Cool variants.

Feel fresh and clean all the time. Try new Intima!

Pascual CONSUMER HEALTHCARE

Now available in Mercury Drug branches and selected drugstores nationwide.

PLDT N D D
Sangkatutak Na Saya No.5

BIG

Per Call

na lang

NATIONWIDE

MINUTE

To over 20 million PLDT NDD, SMART/Talk 'N Text subscribers.
Sa P10 per call, UNLIMITED TELEBABAD ka na!
February 14 - 28, 2005

Pandhon na para magkaisa sa chikal
Sa P10 PER CALL ng PLDT, sulit na sulit ang usapan ninyo!
Buong bansa, buo ang usapan, buo ang saya
dahil sa PLDT P10 PER CALL.
telebabad all over the country!
PLDT to PLDT NDD calls and PLDT to SMART/Talk 'N Text.
Open to PILTEL, CLARKTEL, SUBICTEL, MARATEL
and participating PAPTELCOs.
Wala nang per minute charging, kaya incredibly sulit,
telebabad na!
No network congestion.

For more assistance
CALL 171

PLDT
Iba Pa Rin Ang May PLDT Landline

Abangan!

This offer is open to all PLDT postpaid residential and business subscribers.
For PILTEL, CLARKTEL, SUBICTEL and MARATEL subscribers, please call or visit your respective Business Office for more information.
For PAPTELCO subscribers, call your local PAPTELCO operator for more information.

Sangkatutak Na Saya Na May Kasunod Pa!

SanDisk
SanDiskCruzer® Micro
USB Flash Drive &
MP3 Companion
• Available in 128MB, 256MB and 512MB
• Brilliant blue LED
• Comes with a stylish, clear overmold casing; earphones
• Hi-Speed USB 2.0 certified
• Compatible with Windows and Mac OS
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC.
Tel. 727-3801 Web: www.ics.com.ph

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2005
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BD
BUSINESS
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.net
Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma
Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Projecting clear images for 50 years
EIKI
MADE IN JAPAN
MULTIMEDIA PROJECTORS
THE BRAIN
COMPUTER CORPORATION
AV Design • System Integration • Sales • Rentals
TELS. 722-8843 / 722-8845 / 727-9803 / 721-2466 / 721-2451
email : brain@mozcom.com

Foreign investments slump 54%

By Doris C. Dumlao

FOREIGN direct investments attracted by the Philippines slumped by 54.3 percent in 2004 to $680.27 million from a year ago due to the uncertain business environment last year, documents from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas showed.

It was the first time since 2001 that foreign investments to the country had fallen below the $1-billion mark, reflecting a number of investor concerns last year despite an improved economic performance.

The slowdown likewise reflected the fact that the higher-than-expected domestic economic growth of 6.1 percent posted by the country last year was driven largely by consumption rather than investment spending.

Foreign investment flow to the Philippines steadily rose from $857.87 million in 2001 to $1.43 billion in 2002 and to $1.49 billion in 2003.

In general, offshore investors shunned the country early last year over jitters about the May presidential elections. They remained on the sidelines due to worries over the government's fragile fiscal position and expectations of a sovereign credit-rating downgrade. There were also concerns about the adverse impact of skyrocketing global oil prices.

As distinguished from investment commitments registered with the Board of Investments, the BSP's report reflects actual foreign exchange inflow from direct investments made by foreigners.

A little more than 36 percent of foreign investment inflow to the country last year came from Singapore, making the city-state the biggest source of investment during the period with a $246-million contribution.

The second biggest contributor was the Netherlands with investments of $101.02 million or about 15 percent of total inflows.

Other top sources were Japan ($62.67 million); Cayman Islands ($48.96 million); Virgin Islands ($44.76 million); the United States ($40.28 million); Thailand ($26.7 million), and France ($24 million).

Manufacturing and telecommunication companies were the biggest beneficiaries of foreign direct equity flow last year.

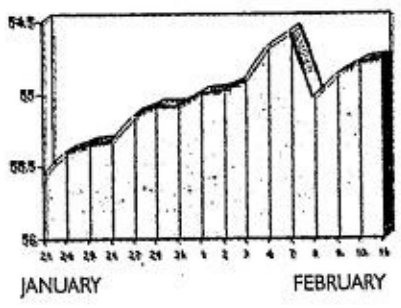
The manufacturing sector raked

FOREIGN/ B9

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE



₱ 54.77 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Feb. 11, 2005

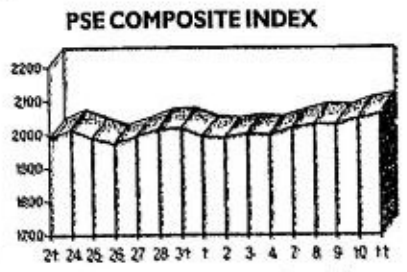
¥ 105.64 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Feb. 10, 2005

GOLD: $414.00-414.50
per ounce Hong Kong, Feb. 8, 2005

STOCK MARKET

Profit-taking seen

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



PROFIT-TAKING is expected this week after the Philippine Stock Exchange composite index last week soared 65 points or 3.3 percent to 2061.48, analysts said.

However, BPI Trade said in its weekly outlook that the market was still bullish based on the study of technical movements of prices "since the higher highs and higher lows are intact." The Phisix established a new five-year high last week.

(See stock market report on Page B6)

On the economic front, exports rose 2.9 percent year-on-year to $3.27 billion in December, posting the slowest growth since December 2003 and a sharp drop from November's 19.5-percent growth, the National Statistics Office said.

The 2004 total stood at $39.6 billion, up 9.3 percent from 2003, falling short of the government's target growth of 10 percent. Electronics exports, which accounted for 68.3 percent of total exports in December, rose 8.3 percent from a year earlier to $2.23 billion.

For the year, electronics exports amounted to $26.64 billion, up 10.2 percent from 2003. In December, semiconductor shipments, accounting for 51 percent of total exports, rose 24.4 percent year-on-year to $1.667 billion.

Despite the slower growth, analysts said the news should have no effect on the stock market.

"If one looks at the absolute figure for export sales, it should fall

PROFIT-TAKING/ B6

DOF bucks bill on savings incentives

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance has called for the postponement of the proposed voluntary retirement benefit system, saying the government still could not afford the entailed incentives until the fiscal problem has been solved.

The DOF estimated that the government stands to lose potential tax revenue ranging between P1.16 billion and P8.82 billion annually should the Personal Equity and Retirement Account (Pera) bill be enacted into law.

The DOF has raised its position despite moves for the Pera scheme's immediate implementation being worked on by Congress and the banking sector.

The Pera bill, several versions of which have been filed in Congress, aims to encourage personal savings and investments for future security through the granting of tax-free privileges.

Under the proposal, any individual or married couple earning income may open a Pera with any accredited bank or non-bank financial intermediary. The end goal is to develop the country's savings rate and help boost the domestic capital market.

But the DOF said that the proposed Pera system, whose immediate implementation is being pushed by the banking sector, was ill-timed.

"Given the huge negative impact of a Pera scheme on government revenue, legislating a Pera at this time does not seem to be in tune with the concerted effort in government to bring down the fiscal deficit over the medium term," the DOF said in a position paper.

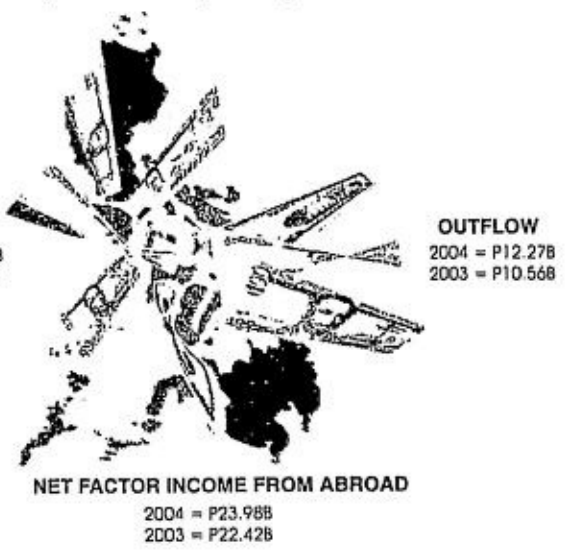
The DOF said it was supportive of

DOF/ B6

INQUIRER MONITOR

Figures that matter in our nation's life

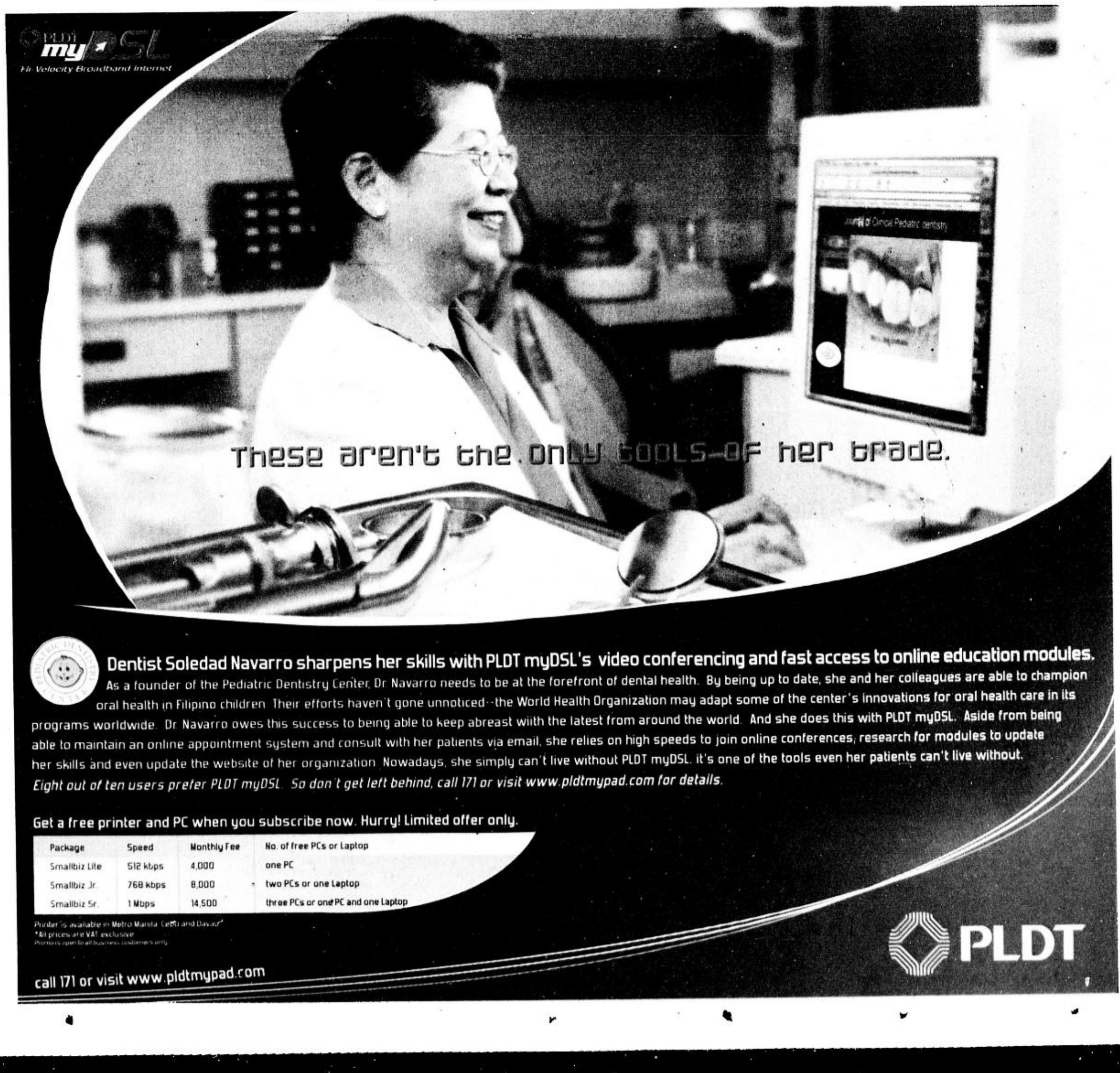
Net factor income from abroad
(2003 & 2004, in billion pesos)



Source: National Statistical Coordination Board

NET factor income from abroad (NFIA) grew by only 2.8 percent in 2004 as the number of deployed overseas Filipino workers declined at the end of the year. In 2003, NFIA grew by 9.2 percent. NFIA is the net flow of property income to and from the rest of the world plus the net flow of compensation of employees.

Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research


PLDT my DSL
Hi-Velocity Broadband Internet
These aren't the only tools of her trade.
Dentist Soledad Navarro sharpens her skills with PLDT myDSL's video conferencing and fast access to online education modules.
As a founder of the Pediatric Dentistry Center, Dr. Navarro needs to be at the forefront of dental health. By being up to date, she and her colleagues are able to champion oral health in Filipino children. Their efforts haven't gone unnoticed--the World Health Organization may adapt some of the center's innovations for oral health care in its programs worldwide. Dr. Navarro owes this success to being able to keep abreast wiith the latest from around the world. And she does this with PLDT myDSL. Aside from being able to maintain an online appointment system and consult with her patients via email, she relies on high speeds to join online conferences, research for modules to update her skills and even update the website of her organization. Nowadays, she simply can't live without PLDT myDSL. it's one of the tools even her patients can't live without.
Eight out of ten users prefer PLDT myDSL. So don't get left behind, call 171 or visit www.pldtmypad.com for details.
Get a free printer and PC when you subscribe now. Hurry! Limited offer only.
Package | Speed | Monthly Fee | No. of free PCs or Laptop
Smallbiz Lite | 512 kbps | 4,000 | one PC
Smallbiz Jr. | 768 kbps | 8,000 | two PCs or one Laptop
Smallbiz Sr. | 1 Mbps | 14,500 | three PCs or one PC and one Laptop
Printer is available in Metro Manila, Cebu and Davao*
*All prices are VAT exclusive
Promo is open to all business customers only
call 171 or visit www.pldtmypad.com
PLDT

Provisioning requirement for quality loans slashed to 2%

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE MONETARY Board slashed the loan provisioning requirement for banks' high-quality credit exposure to 2 percent from 10 percent as an incentive to good borrowers and lenders.

"The lower capital charge will reduce the cost of borrowings of quality companies and will encourage them to issue debt securities in the domestic capital market," Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Deputy Governor Alberto Reyes said on Friday.

"Creditor-banks, for their part, will be able to free up additional capital for lending," he added.

To motivate banks to clean up their bad assets, however, the BSP earlier announced that the minimum capital charge for non-performing loans (NPLs) would be increased from 10 percent to 15 percent. This will be done through an increase in assigned risk weight to better reflect the riskier character of NPLs as opposed to performing loans.

The amendments approved by the BSP's policy-making body were in line with the Basel 2 international capital standards which call for greater risk sensitivity in bank capital adequacy framework.

The assets which will have lower risk weight and thus qualify for the reduced capital charge include banks' holdings of corporate debt securities and loans to companies which are considered of high credit quality.

"High" credit quality means being rated at least "AA" or its equivalent by BSP-recognized credit rating agencies, such as Standard & Poor's, Moody's Investor Service, FitchRatings or domestic rating agency Philratings.

The BSP is set to fully implement the Basel 2 framework by 2007.

"The MB decided to advance the implementation of certain components of Basel 2 to promote the faster development of the domestic capital market and to speed up the clean-up of NPLs," Reyes said.

"A side benefit will be to boost the domestic credit ratings industry which will further support the domestic capital market," Reyes added.

REYES

In the meantime, the increase in the loan provisioning for NPLs from 10 percent to 15 percent will be done in two stages to give banks time to adjust to these stricter requirements.

Between the effectivity of this new circular and end-2006, the minimum capital charge for NPLs will be increased to 12.5 percent and further to 15 percent by 2007. Non-performing debt securities will be similarly treated.

For non-performing housing loans, however, the increase in minimum capital charge will only be from 5 percent to 7.5 percent until end-2006 and to 10 percent by 2007.

"The minimum capital charge for non-performing housing loans are significantly lower than for ordinary non-performing loans in keeping with the preferential treatment for housing loans which are considered to be of relatively lower risk," Reyes said.

These new provisioning requirements overhaul the BSP's earlier circular no. 280 dated March 2001.

• SUPERIOR COPY QUALITY • BETTER PRICE • BETTER SERVICE

Canon

iC-MF3112 12 cpm
• Laser Printer
• Colour Scanner
• Digital Copier
P23,500

iR-1210 12 cpm
Digital Copier and Printer
Can be hooked up to a computer.
P46,500

Authorized Master Dealer:
Elite Machines Inc.
Elite Building, 20 Araneta Ave. Ext., Quezon City
4110089 · 4110169
7328045 · 7328050 · 7328055
7328061 · 7328063 · 7328064
Rm. 301 Pacific Bldg., 460 Quintin Paredes corner Gandara St., Binondo, Manila
2476012 · 2474030 /31 /32 /33
Espiritu Building, 33 Gen. Maxilom Ave., Cebu City
(032) 2336711 to 16
EURO-ASIA G/F, LRDC Building, 22 San Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City
Tel Nos. 8877238 / 56 / 68 / 80 / 95 / 98 & 8880698
Visit us at www.elitemachinesinc.com

IMPORTED WHEELCHAIR
COMFORT WHEELCHAIR
• Fixed armrests
• Frame coated in dark blue color
• 8"/24" solid wheels
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
STAR MILLS PAMPANGA 2nd Floor (45) 636-3513
SM MANILA 5th Floor 484-1471
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-7540
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-0436
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 802-1565
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
ROBINSONS PIONEER Basement 687-6828
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
CEBU 417-8286

ASUS NOTEBOOK PCs
www.asus.com
A4
Desktop-level POWER in a notebook casing
4-way speaker · Desktop-level power · 15" Widescreen · Entertainment Center
• Intel® Mobile Pentium® 4 at 3.2 GHz • 256 MB DDR RAM • 40 GB Hard Disk Drive • 15" TFT Active LCD Display • 64 MB Video • DVD/CD-RW Combo Drive • Windows XP (Home Edition) • Smart Card Reader • ASUS Power4 Gear Technology • Audio DJ • 3.2 kgs.
▸ Php 75,000
W1 A Perfect Blend of Audio/Video Performance and Style
• Intel® Centrino™ Dothan 2MB cache at 1.6 GHz • 512 MB DDR 333 • 80 GB Hard Disk Drive 5400 speed • 15.4" Widescreen • LAN/Modem • PCMCIA 2.1 • 1 IEEE Firewire Port • Built-in Combo Drive • ATI Mobility™ Radeon™ 9600 64MB • Integrated 4-in-1 Memory Card Reader • TV Tuner / TV-Out • SPDIF, 5.1 Surround sound • Built-in subwoofer • Windows XP Professional • 3D Games bundle • Optical Mouse • Intel PRO-Wireless 2200 LAN bg • ASUS Power4 Gear Technology • ASUS Mobile Theatre • with Multimedia Remote Control
▸ Php 134,000
M5 Move with Style, Think with Power
• Intel® Centrino™ Dothan 2 MB cache at 1.5 GHz • 256 MB Memory • 40 GB Hard Disk Drive • 12.1" TFT Active LCD Display • 3 USB Ports • LAN/Modem • Embedded Intel 855 GME Chipset • Built-in DVD-CDR-W • USB 1.44 Floppy Disk Drive • PCMCIA 2.1 • ASUS Power4 Gear Technology • Intel PRO-Wireless 2200 LAN bg • 3-in-1 Card Reader • Windows XP (Home Edition) • Optical Mouse • Microsoft Works • Trend PC-Cillin Anti-Virus • 1.5 kgs.
▸ Php 105,000
S5 Born to be Mobile Noble
• Intel®Centrino™ Dothan 2 MBcache at 1.5 GHz • 256 MB Memory • 40 GB Hard Disk Drive • 12.1" TFT Active LCD • 3 USB Ports • LAN/Modem • Embedded Intel 855 GME Internal GFX • External Slim DVD/CDR-W Combo • USB 1.44 Floppy Disk Drive • PCMCIA 2.1 • ASUS Power4 Gear Technology • Intel PRO-Wireless 2100 LAN bg • Microsoft Works • Windows XP (Home Edition) • Optical Mouse • Trend PC-Cillin Anti-Virus • 1.3 kgs.
▸ Php 92,900
A3 Changing the way you communicate
• Intel® Centrino™ at 1.5 GHZ • 256 MB DDR RAM • 40 GB Hard Disk Drive • 14" TFT Active LCD Display • Embedded Intel 855 GM VGA • Combo Drive • Intel PRO-Wireless 2100 LAN 802.11 bg • Windows XP (Home Edition) • Smart Card Reader • ASUS Power4 Gear Technology • Built-in Web Cam • Built-in Mic • Audio DJ • 2.5 kgs.
▸ Php 79,900
L7 COMBO Your Reliable Partner
• Intel® Pentium®4 at 2.8 GHz • 256 MB DDR RAM Memory • 40 GB Hard Disk Drive • 15" TFT Active LCD • TV-Out • Built-in Combo DVD/CDR-W Drive • 3-in-1 Card Reader • Windows XP (Home Edition) • Audio DJ • Carrying Case • Trend PC-Cillin Anti-Virus • Optical Mouse
▸ Php 79,900
ASUS SERVICE CENTERS:
Manila: ASUS WORLD Cyberzone, 4th Floor SM Megamall, Bldg. B (02) 638.2955
Banbros Commercial, Inc. www.banbros.ph (02) 724.9998 loc 1404 /1408 bcitech@banbros.ph
Cebu: (032) 416.8733 / 37 sales@banbroscebu.com
dealers
Complink (02) 920.9140 to 41
TCA (02) 637.1200
Silicon Valley (02) 371.5611 to 19
Villman Computer Systems, Inc. (02) 892.2222
Accent Micro 426-9829
NTComputer Mart 893.4690
E-Hub (02) 775.0140 to 41
Electroworld 813.6154
Octagon Computers 635.9087
Timex Computer 733.1142 to 43
Compex 711.0288
Thinking Tools (032) 254.2227
X-Comp (032) 262.5155 to 67
Wired Systems (032) 255.5282
Concept Iloilo (034) 337.6874
BCG Computers Bacolod (034) 434.2532 to 39
Microstation 637.1473
Starapple 811.1421 to 26
PC Live 634.2438
Aglanio 893.0408
PC Corner 723-2837
PC Gilmore 722.0184

On a roll?

NO FREE LUNCH

Cielito F. Habito

IT'S been a while since we've seen as much good news on the economic front as we have lately. Latest good news over the weekend was our country's removal from the money laundering watchlist of the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force (FATF), which should remove one particular deterrent for investors to put their stakes on the Philippine economy. Not too long ago (as in just a few weeks ago), analyst friends were still telling me that in talking to investors, they had to squeeze out whatever good news they could get from the prevailing situation. These days, there's no need to squeeze. Perhaps that's what prompted the President to declare, in a moment of jubilation, that the economy is "on a roll." The superstitious among us would probably be inclined to believe that 2004 had some jinx in it for us, while 2005 is emerging to be a "lucky" year. Well, keep those fingers crossed.

Better growth

Actually, the good news started in 2004, but is only getting reported now.

In Ateneo's "Eagle Watch" economic and political briefing last week, we highlighted the fact that the full-year growth of the economy in 2004 had topped both the previous year's performance, as well as targets set by the government and projections made by most think tanks, including ours.

The government had targeted 4.9 to 5.8 percent growth in domestic production (GDP); we achieved 6.1 percent, which is also a substantial improvement over the 4.5 percent growth in 2003.

Looking more closely at the figures, all major sectors of the economy, i.e. agriculture, industry and services also met or surpassed government targets, and did better than in the previous year. And unlike recent years, the latest regional breakdown of output growth shows all regions of the country contributing to growth, whereas in recent years, one or two regions experienced negative growth or contraction.

An important development was the improved performance in manufacturing, whose growth had accelerated through the year to an impressive fourth quarter finish of 6.9 percent, with capacity utilization also improving to 80 percent from last year's 78 percent. This is a welcome departure from the subsector's sluggish performance over recent years, that had translated into a consistent decline in manufacturing jobs.

Exports were also posting double-digit growth in October and November, but the disappointing report for December just released late last week showed that this was not yet necessarily a trend.

Rising markets

What really prompted the President's "on a roll" remark were the positive movements in the stock market and the value of the peso. Foreign funds entering the stock market in the first 28 days of the year amounted to P11.39 billion net, boosted by the P8.79 billion buy-in by Japanese beverage giant Kirin into the San Miguel Corp. The stock market infusion was just about half of the total net inflow of "hot money" reported by the BSP for the same period of $427.2 million, or about P23.5 billion. The rest of the inflows went into purchases of government bonds and treasury bills, as well as other IOUs issued by the private sector.

In the same period last year, only $12.9 million came into the country, a mere 3 percent of what flowed in last month. And the inflows as of last month alone already approach what we got for the whole year of 2004, which was $486.8 million. No surprise, then, that the peso has been surging. But as we indicated in a recent column, these money inflows are more the result of a "push" away from a weakening dollar due to the record huge trade and fiscal deficits of the US. Massive funds fleeing from US dollar-denominated financial assets need a place to go, and we are benefiting from this exodus along with our neighbors.

These footloose funds are also being drawn in by improved corporate earnings here—including PLDT-Smart's P24 billion, Globe's P11 billion, BPI's P6.7 billion, and the double- and triple-digit profit growth of other big companies listed in our stock market.

One out of three

Is the economy on a roll, then? In my years in government as the primary bearer of news on the economy's performance through most of the 1990s, I had learned to define the health of the economy in terms of the three yardsticks Juan de la Cruz can understand and identify with most readily: prices, jobs and income. Yawns would greet me once I recited figures on indicators like fiscal deficits, balance of payments, interest rates, and many others that are not ends in themselves, but just means to these three ends that every Filipino can feel.

What's the track record on the three? Mahar Mangahas of SWS constantly reminds us that prices are the foremost economic indicator that Filipinos care about. Unfortunately, we all know things are a lot worse on this score. Prices are rising more than twice as fast as they did last year, at a rate of 8.4 percent compared to last year's 3.1 percent. To be fair, oil prices are mostly to blame for this, and this was largely beyond our control.

How about jobs? Unemployment rate in the third quarter of 2004 rose to 10.9 percent from the 10.2 percent posted the year before. In other words, jobs lagged behind the growth in production—a phenomenon that has come to be called "jobless growth" by economists. The only good news, as discussed above, pertains to output and income, our third yardstick.

One out of three isn't exactly worth rejoicing about. And the one good news isn't entirely good either, for two reasons. First, a closer look at the fourth quarter growth signals a slowing down; quarter-to-quarter growth, after adjusting for seasonality, was the slowest (at 0.6 percent) we have seen since 2001. That's why most analysts see growth falling short of 6 percent in 2005. Second, the benefits from the growth we're seeing are being felt only by a few. I've been calling it a growth that is still too narrow (in terms of sectoral and geographical coverage), shallow (in terms of linkages to the rest of the economy) and hollow (in terms of translating into more jobs). Is the economy on a roll, then? I'd say not quite. There's so much more homework for us to do.

Comments welcome at chabito@ateneo.edu

New corn variety OKd

THE DEPARTMENT of Agriculture's Bureau of Plant Industry has given commercial approval to Roundup Ready Corn, a new corn variety developed by Monsanto Co. This is expected to result in an increase in farm areas planted to biotechnology or BT corn.

"The approval of the new corn variety indicates that countries around the world continue to recognize the safety and benefits of biotechnology agricultural products," says Brett Begemann, Monsanto's executive vice president for international commercial.

The approval comes after a four-year process under the strict supervision and oversight of the National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines (NCBP) and agencies of the Department of Agriculture.

Roundup Ready Corn is Monsanto Philippines' second biotech crop that was approved. This BT corn technology allows growers to use Roundup glyphosate-based agricultural herbicides over the top of growing plants, thereby offering more effective weed control with an herbicide.

In December 2002 YieldGard Corn Borer insect-protected corn was approved for propagation, which set a milestone for Philippine agriculture as the first biotech food crop approved in Asia. YieldGard Corn Borer corn was planted on 54,000 hectares in 2004, benefiting mostly small Filipino farmers. The product ensures higher yields and better quality of grain which translate to better income for the farmers.

Together, these technologies will set the stage for enhanced production of crops that will help the country ensure food security and the acceleration of the agricultural economy. The Philippines currently imports 1 million metric tons of corn every year.

Ruling elites lose SC cases

JANUARY had not been a good month to a number of the country's ruling families and personalities, as far as their court cases with the Supreme Court were concerned.

Former Agriculture Secretary now presidential adviser on job creation Luis Lorenzo Jr. and his family had been rebuffed by the high tribunal in their effort to stop the award of 317 hectares out of the family's sprawling Lapanday Group banana plantation to land reform beneficiaries.

Lapanday claimed that it had already paid off hundreds of tenants to give up their rights over the so-called Orval Hughes estate in Malalag, Davao del Sur, a defense line ponente Justice Cancio Garcia dismissed as "puerile" and in violation of agrarian reform laws.

Closer to the capital, the late Eugenio Lopez Jr. and his brother Manolo and Oscar and sister Presentacion Lopez-Psinakis also lost an appeal to attach a lis pendens notation on the titles to two parcels of land in Marikina now registered under the names of banker Roman Ozaeta Jr. and his wife Salome Lao and to one Alfonso Sandoval and his wife Rosa Ruiz.

The Lopezes are claiming that Ozaeta and Sandoval had already sold the disputed properties to the late Eugenio Lopez Sr. way back in September 1970.

Other spectacular setbacks:

- The Lopezes' own ABS-CBN television network and broadcaster/former Sen. Loren Legarda had been ordered by the high tribunal to pay the censors board a P20,000 fine for failing to submit an October 1991 episode of "The Inside Story" for review prior to airing.

The particular episode, "Prostitution," caused uproar in Philippine Women's University after the school was named as home to some students moonlighting as sex workers.

- John Gokongwei Jr. lost in his motion for reconsideration to have the Supreme Court en banc review a September 2003 division ruling, where the taipan earlier lost in his appeal to have the December 1993 bidding of the Philseco shipyard in Subic nullified in his favor.

In an unusual series of legal somersaults, the September 2003 Supreme Court resolution actually reversed a November 2000 SC decision, which in turn reversed and set aside a Court of Appeals July 1995 decision.

Gokongwei lost in the bidding after the high court upheld the Committee on Privatization's decision for the Keppel Group to exercise its right to top Gokongwei's bid.

In addition to the Singaporean multinational, the other members of the Keppel Group include the SM Group, Insular Life, Mitsui and ICTSI.

- Former Tourism and later Executive Secretary Peter Garrucho has no more choice but to pay more than P1.6 million in damages plus cost of suit to former Philippine Tourism Authority general manager Ramon Binamira, who was the subject of a hold-departure order from Garrucho and the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation in 1990 in connection with the loss of P161-million worth of government securities from PTA.

The hold-departure order was later ruled illegal by the Makati Regional Trial Court, which also imposed the damages.

Garrucho and his counsel, Remollo and Associates, lost the right to appeal after several notices sent to both the client and the counsel returned unanswered.

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

Money-go-round

- A GROUP of congressmen who attended Friday's Legislative Executive Development Advisory Council meeting in Malacañang pushed for the appointment of a "banker with capital markets and legislative experience, instead of a regulator," as the next Bangko Sentral governor. That description seems tailor-made for Peter Favila, who is also being nominated by former President Ramos and House Speaker Jose de Venecia.
- The receiver of ASB Holdings, Rosario Bernaldo, has been quietly replaced by Julio Elamparo, to the delight of some members of Finex.

Heard through the grapevine

PLDT and Metro Pacific chair Manuel V. Pangilinan may have to undergo yet another knee operation.

MVP, incidentally, shares the same surgeon as Erap, the US-based Christopher Mow.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@pldtdsl.net or cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com)

Sun's 24/7 plan stays–NTC

By Clarissa S. Batino

SUN Cellular, the smallest of the wireless giants, has been given a temporary reprieve after the National Telecommunications Commission denied the petition of the leading mobile players to stop Sun's 24/7 unlimited, within-network plan.

The NTC directed Digitel Mobile Philippines Inc. Friday night to answer within 15 days the charges made by its competitor that it was engaging in predatory and discriminatory pricing and that it was delivering poor service to its subscribers.

"We denied the request of Digitel's competitors for a cease-and-desist order against 24/7. The Commission believes circumstances don't warrant enjoining 24/7 since no prejudice or damage has been done to the public," NTC Chair Ronald Solis said in an interview.

The NTC had set hearings on March 7 and 8 to discuss the issues against Sun's 24/7.

Two-year-old Sun Cellular is the trade name of Gokongwei-owned Dig-

SUN'S/ B4

Tender offer for Union Cement seen

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission (SEC) has ruled that a holding company that bought into Union Cement Holdings Corp. (UCHC) is required to buy out all minority shareholders.

The decision is believed crucial for shareholders who own shares in Union Cement Corp., a listed firm now renamed Holcim Philippines Inc., a subsidiary of UCHC.

SEC Chair Fe Barin said late Friday that the Commission would soon issue its formal ruling on the matter. But this early, she said the SEC would require a tender offer.

But while the SEC is still working on the fine points of its order, sources at the agency said the tender offer would likely apply to shareholders at the time the acquisition was made last year.

"It is to protect investors. We should work for the development of the capital market and try to ensure the protection of investors," Barin said.

Barin added that the SEC's interpretation of the Securities Regulation Code under Sec. 19 covering mandatory tender offers was that it should cover both direct and indirect acquisitions.

Summer Outing Package
Riverview Resort & Conference Center
Day Swimming (open pool) Entrance/Swimming Contact Php 85.00
Night Swimming (open pool) Entrance/Swimming Contact Php 95.00
• Entrance & Swimming Fee
• Access to a near Olympic size Pool with 20 ft. high twister slide • Access to kiddie pool with slide
• Use of Open Native Huts • Use of Common Shower & Bath
• Free use of Barbeque Grill • 15% Discount on Bowling Games
• Ample Parking Space
Cell. No.: 0918-9142837 • 0917-5449913 Manila: (02) 925-8858 / 928-4014
Calamba: (049) 545-1856 / 545-2112 Website: www.riverview.com.ph

PREMIER LCD PROJECTOR
• 1,500 ANSI lumens
• DLP technology
• Compact
• Ultra - light 2.0 kgs
P63,000
THE ULTIMATE PRESENTATION MACHINE S600
INFINITE SYSTEMS Call for FREE DEMO 892-9073 to 77

EZOKleen portalet corp
Also available in Clark Pampanga
New PORTABLE TOILETS
Construction Projects
Ground Breaking
Trade Exhibits
Concerts
School Events
Fairs/Parties
SEPTIC TANK SERVICES
For RENTALS:
Tel. 643-3393
Fax 643-3588

BatteryMAX
MAX longer battery life, MAX SAVER!!!
BatteryMAX™
And be one of the thousand satisfied customers.
Unit A-115 Hillcrest Cond., 1618 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City Philippines
Tel Nos.: 722-1031, 726-8607 • Fax No. (632) 721-7401
Cell No. (0917) 835-1945 • E-mail: biscor@skynet.net
PERFECT FOR AUTOMOBILE
TAP MAX PRODUCTS™ PHILIPPINES

FREE PAYROLL SOFTWARE
Suweldo.net payroll
Download from www.suweldo.net call 757-2381

STOP TIMEKEEPING FRAUD NOW!
Biometrics Timerecorder P16,498 VAT-incl
AUTHORIZED PROVINCIAL DEALERS
Angeles : Rockbottom Superstore (45) 8926549
Bacolod : Datalink Technologies (34) 4333316 4351425
Cebu : CBX Corporation (32) 2314369
Cebu : Dreamtech Enterprises (32) 3453360 3440550
Davao : DCTech Micro Services (82) 2212380
Dagupan : Bitstop Inc (75) 5221264 to 65
Iloilo : Concept Computer (33) 3376874
La Union : PC4Me Computer (72) 8882249 8880873
Tacloban : Electrocomputer Data (53) 3255904
Tuguegarao : Abana Computer Services (78) 8449004
TITANIUM TECHNOLOGIES
THE COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY
phone 534.2506-08 www.epayroll.ph inquiries@epayroll.ph

Send resumés instantly
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com
JOB Market ONLINE

AS LOW AS ₱300 FAX REPAIR
FREE ESTIMATE!
ALSO REPAIR COMPUTERS PRINTERS, MONITORS, TYPEWRITERS, TV, AUDIO VIDEO, AND OTHER OFFICE EQUIPMENTS.
KCS KINGS
CUT THIS AD AND AVAIL OF A 10% DISCOUNT
GF Aura-Vir Plaza, 1695 Evangelista St., Bangkal, MAKATI CITY 894-2309 843-6830 843-6662
Rm. C RGH Building 83 Timog Avenue, QUEZON CITY 374-7963 411-6380

We'll fix it FAST!
Fax Machines • Computers • Monitors • Printers (Laser, Deskjet, Dot Matrix) • Key Telephone Systems • Bundy Clock • Answering Machines • Paper Shredders • UPS-AVRs • Typewriters and other office equipments
Panasonic EPSON SHARP OKI XEROX SANYO brother Muratec Canon
CITIWORLD GUARANTEED 60 MINS. SERVICES RESPONSE
Main Office: Lower Ground, David 1 Building, 567 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.: 725-7031 / 724-5823 / 723-4894
Makati Office: 3A, Trans-Phil House 1177 Chino Roces Ave., Corner Bagtikan St., Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 895-1435 / 896-6032

PERFECT PRINTS IN A FLASH
₱ 8,195.00
FREE! Polaroid One Instant Camera
Phaser 3115 Laser Printer
The ideal printer for home and office use. With its affordable price, the benefits of laser printing are now made available to all.
- High Speed printing at 14 ppm
- Sharp Texts with 1200 dpi class resolution
- Capable of printing 15,000 pages per month without breakdown
- Low print cost
- Very Affordable

Participating Stores

Manila		**Caloocan**		**Luzon**	
Compex - SM Manila	4004647	Pinnade Technologies	323 8888	Planet Earth - Vigan	(077) 6320546
Compex - Tutuban Mall	2531615	Multi Trust Computer	363 1239	Maxan Computer - Laoag	(077) 7731556
Diamond Dreamchum	5227420			Northpoint Computer - Laoag	(077) 7703521
Mega Merge	7362649	**SM MegaMall**		New Ongto Expressmart - Iriga	(054) 2995678
Best Buy Computer	2548547	Compex	6331862	RCA - Cavite	(054) 2995678
Pioneer Computer	4009598	Villman	6830532	RCA - Lucena	(042) 6603899
		Brochiere	6332172	RCA - Naga	(054) 8118483
Alabang		**SM West**		Prologue - Laguna	(049) 5362057
Compex - SM South Mall	8067006	Compex	9204610	PC 4 Me - LaUnion	(072) 888 2249
Dreamchum II	8003691	Villman	9267322	Laser Marketing - Bagulo	(074) 4425854
Compex - Festival Mall	8503654			PC King - Baguio	(074) 4428357
PC Madness-Festival Mall	8503859	**Makati**			
Compex - SM Sucat	8254467	Compex - Parksquare	9288382	**Visayas**	
PC Supplies	8524293	Villman - Parksquare	7527758	Delta Merchandising-Iloilo	(033) 3363196
				Mindanao	
Quezon City		**Quezon City (Gilmore)**		Datavision - Iligan	(063) 221 2973
MCA CD Romania	3238888	Dreamchum	4103714	Global PC Computer - Butuan	(085) 3411188
Bayan PC	6870710	Dreamchum II	4102733	Wren Computer - Davao	(082) 2240052
SmartLink System	3631239	PC City	7051326	Digital Interface - Davao	(082) 2272282
Techpoint	7231254	PC Outlet	4102829		
PC Madness	7248472	PC House	7264314		

better solutions AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Promo period: February 7-28, 2005
THE DOCUMENT COMPANY FUJI XEROX
Per DTI Permit# 0356 Series 2005
url: www.ati.com.ph • e-mail: inquire@ati.com.ph • Tel: 723 0601 to 10 • Fax: 723 7951/726 6435.

IT'S ABOUT TIME.
You've read the news. The peso is up. The stock market is hot. Interest rates are down. In the finance business timing is everything and opportunities do not wait. Whether you're starting a new venture, expanding an existing one or simplybeefing up your portfolio, CKP are the people to get to know.
CKP
CONSULTANCY SERVICES
The People You Want to Know.

Owning a Crystal Clear® Purified Drinking Water Store has never been this easy,
- We provide design and construction support
- Training, Store Opening and Ongoing support
- Pro-active customer service
- Reliable on-call technical support
- Promotion and Advertising

SOLEREX Since 1999
For as low as P75,000.00
You can be part of the fastest growing franchise today.
CUSTOMER CARE HOTLINES: MAIN Office: Tel.#(02) 642-3516 / (02) 640-4954 / (02) 642-4489 Telefax. (02) 6404968 North Luzon Office: (045) 611-4122 South Luzon Office: (043) 757-3822 Cebu Office: (032) 344-8889 Davao Office: (082) 300-3448

PAL seen expanding overseas operations

By Clarissa S. Batino

PHILIPPINE Airlines is seriously considering expanding its overseas operations by flying to new destinations and increasing flights to the United States, Japan and Hong Kong, its top official said.

PAL president Jaime Bautista said the flag carrier was studying plans to fly more frequently to the US, Japan and Hong Kong while evaluating the viability of mounting flights to Nepal, India and reviving its services to Europe.

Overseas flights account for 70 percent of PAL's total sales, while the remaining 30 percent is accounted for by domestic flights.

Of the total revenue, passenger flights account for 85 percent, while cargoes contribute the remaining 15 percent.

PAL just leased three new Airbus planes, boosting its fleet to 32 aircraft for domestic and overseas operations.

"We may add flights to the US, Hong Kong and Japan. In the US, for instance, of the 30 flight entitlements available, we are using only 20. We can bring this up to 28," said Bautista in an interview.

The PAL official noted improvements in some of PAL's overseas markets, particularly the US.

"Some routes are still under study. Nepal is being considered seriously," said Bautista. The Philippines forged its first air agreement with Nepal last year, allowing local carriers to fly to Kathmandu once a week.

The Napalese government gave the Philippines a weekly entitlement of 2,500 seats for passenger flights and 200 tons for cargo. Air talks with India are scheduled within the first quarter.

"Europe continues to be under close evaluation. We will only go there if we can make money. The problem is that yields to Europe are quite low," said Bautista.

He said it was very difficult to compete with Middle Eastern carriers when flying to Europe. Several Middle Eastern carriers have brought down the price of a two-way Europe trip to as low as $550.

FLAG carrier eyes refleeting program.

PAL said the current fiscal year was showing strong signs of financial stability despite the challenges posed by the rising cost of fuel and the killer tsunami that dampened tourism.

The flag carrier said it was able to post more than P1 billion in profit during the first nine months of operations or from April to December 2004. PAL posted a profit of P1.44 billion from April to September 2004 or its first half of operations. PAL's fiscal year begins April 1 and ends March 31 the following year.

PAL sales peak in the first six months of its fiscal year and tapers off in the last two quarters. Travel picks up in December but slows down again at the start of the year. It starts to improve again in March.

PAL is confident it will make profit in the current fiscal year ending March. Bautista was appointed PAL president in August.

ATTENTION: Managers, Engineers & Technical Instructors from Schools & Factories

Industrial Automation & Mechatronics Training & Kits
March – April 2005 Training Schedule

Basic Biomed Technology — Ph P 9,000.00 / 120 hrs
Mar 7 - May 6 (M-F 2-6 pm)
Basic Automation (Motion Control) — Ph P 4,500.00 / 30 hrs
Mar 8 - 22 (T-TH 1-7 pm)
Basic Programmable Logic Controller — Ph P 5,500.00 / 40 hrs
Mar 28 - Apr 18 (MWF 2-6 pm)
Advanced Process Automation (Instrumentation) — Ph P 8,500.00 / 60 hrs
Apr 2 - May 28 (Sat. 9-5:30 pm)

MECHATRONICS TRAINING KITS
(Affordable, Available and complete with manuals, CD Software & Training)

1. Electropneumatics
2. Basic Programmable Logic Controller (PLC)
3. Advanced PLC (with AD / DA)
4. Motion Control (Frequency Inverter / Stepper / Servo Motor)
5. Human Machine Interface (HMI)
6. SCADA Training Kit
7. Process Automation (Instrumentation) w/ Calibrator
8. Telemetery: Wireless Transmitter

For more info & reservation, please call Honey Baldo at 928-3307 or at Industrial Controls Corporation, Ortigas Center c/o Carol Bautista & Gamelia Ilao at 687-4814 to 15

MECHATRONICS TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION
2nd Floor, I. Vivian Hall, UP ISSI, T. Jacinto St., UP Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines
e-mail: mtc@industrialcontrolscorp.com Tel. No.: 928-3307 Fax: 928-4297 / 687-2443

NextPOS
Restaurant Management Systems
Head Office
Store 1 Store 1 Store 1
Denny's TCBY TACO MAKER
NextPOS Restaurant Wireless
NextPOS Data Polling System
NextPOS Customers Worldwide
* WANTED PARTNERS NATIONWIDE
ePOS PLUS
POINT OF SALE PLUS ACCOUNTING SOLUTIONS
Show Room : 4th Flr. SM Citymall Manila
Nr. Manila City Hall
Tel.4040063/5214381/6389977
Makati : Tel.8936343 /8921761 /8139049
Cebu : Tel. No. (032)-4188593
Website : www.eposplus.net

NEGOSYONG FOOD CART
(Earn P20,000 - P30,000 / Month)
BARYABALLS STATION
P 65TH ONLY (PROMO)
WITH OVER 100 CARTS TO SERVE YOU
(Squid Ball, Fish Ball, Kikiam, Hamburger, Siopao, Siomai, Tokneneng, BBQ, Guiamman, Coffee, E-Load, Etc.)
NEW CONCEPTS AVAILABLE !!!
DRINK STATION CART P 65th
FRIED CHICKEN CART P 90th
BURGERS & SANDWICH CART P 90th
WE PROVIDE SITES & INITIAL STOCKS FREE
PEOPLE'S FRANCHISE and BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT INC.
Rm. 207 St. Anthony Bldg., Aurora Blvd., Cubao Quezon City
Tels: 995-7099 • 995-7103 (Ms. ANNE)
Reserve Now and Get Big Discount!!!

RP halal food exports projected to double

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE COUNTRY'S halal food exports are expected to double this year to about $100 million, said Abdul Rahman RT Linzag, president of the Islamic Da'wah Council of the Philippines (IDCP).

The projection was based on the surge in demand particularly in areas hit by the tsunami last December.

Also, the adoption of clearer guidelines on the procurement of halal-certified products in several Muslim countries is expected to give a big boost to Philippine halal exports.

Linzag said buyers of halal products were expected to get more from the Philippines as last year's tragedy caused increased demand especially for ready-to-eat food.

"We have been exporting halal noodles to our neighbors even before the tsunami struck, but the continuing relief operations in those countries posed greater opportunities for our producers," Linzag said in an interview.

Also, Linzag announced that the IDCP last month signed a memorandum of agreement with Bulacan-based Agro Food Processing and Development Corp. on cooperating in the processing of chicken for the local and international halal markets.

Halal is an Arabic word that means "permissible" and in relation to consumables, it refers to products that Muslims are allowed to use, eat and drink in the observance of Islam.

Linzag said that so far, IDCP was the only Philippine organization accredited with the Jakarta-based World Halal Council.

He explained that Muslim countries, which import significant volumes of consumables, accept only the products that are halal-certified by organizations accredited by the WHC.

IDCP, a federation of 95 Muslim organizations nationwide established in 1981, is also a member of the Regional Islamic Da'wah Council of Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

Under the MOA with Agro Foods, the company would provide the chicken and the abattoir while IDCP would provide Muslim workers that are trained in halal processing.

Also, IDCP will provide officials who will ensure that the plant as well as the processing of the chickens follow halal requirements. IDCP will also provide the halal certification for the products.

"Importers like the Arab countries are very strict (about halal meat products)," Linzag said. "They require three documents for the products—one each covering the state of the animals before and after they are killed and a third for the halal certification itself."

Listing of ICT firms pushed

THE GOVERNMENT is pushing for the listing in the local bourse of firms engaged in the high-growth information technology-enabled services in a bid to further develop the country's capital markets.

Outgoing Trade Secretary Cesar V. Purisima said ICT firms as well as mining companies that have not yet listed were seen as a driving force in broadening the base of the PSE.

Purisima, who becomes finance secretary this week, made the statement amid reports that Eastwood City-based eTelecare Global Solutions was planning to go public through an American stock exchange.

In 2004, eTelecare was reported to have been planning to list with the PSE but a company official said the firm had not made a choice on which bourse to list in.

Rod C. Estrera, eTelecare corporate communications manager, said the firm's finance team was still studying the matter but that it hoped to make a decision within this year.

eTelecare has 11 call centers in two continents, with its North American operations based in Monrovia, California.

Purisima said ICT firms would be encouraged to list with the PSE, but added that it would not hurt if such companies were to be listed in multiple markets.

What is important is that the financial requirements of local companies should be sourced more through the sale of assets rather than from bank loans, he said.

He said 98 percent of local companies' funding needs come from banks while in developed markets, bank loans account for only 30 percent.

PSE president Francis Lim said he was actively persuading companies with plans to go public to do it through the PSE.

"It would be an insult to the PSE if a Philippine-based company would list in a foreign market and not here," Lim said.

"Right now there are only 230 companies listed with the PSE," Lim said. "This is a very low number."

Last Friday, the Board of Investments signed a memorandum of agreement with the PSE. The deal aims to make it easier for BOI-registered firms to list in the local bourse.

The agreement seeks to implement the provisions of Executive Order No. 226 or the Omnibus Investments Code of 1987, which requires BOI-registered firms to be 10-percent publicly owned within 10 years of registration.

Lim said the cooperation between the two bodies was "monumental" in that it could help widen the stock market's base.

Ronnel W. Domingo

intel inside
pentium 4
Enable
your kids future with
Packard Bell's iXtreme
& iMedia Desktop PCs.
Packard Bell recommends Microsoft® Windows® XP
imedia M859
Packard Bell iMedia (New Model)
Entry Model
• Intel® Pentium®4 Processor 2.8GHz
• Microsoft® Windows® XP Home® Edition
• 256MB DDRAM (333MHz)
• 80 GB HDD (7200RPM)
• 17" Monitor, silver / black
• 1.44MB Floppy Drive
• CD-RW 24X48X
• Integrated Graphics
• 64MB Video Memory Shared
• 56Kbps Data / Fax V.92 Modem
• 10 / 100 Ethernet
• Integrated Audio
• Storm 2.0 Speakers-Black
• Packard Bell iMedia PS2 Keyboard
• Packard Bell iMedia PS2 Mouse
• 6X USB 2.0
• Danube ALT Silver Black Chassis
• 1 Year local Warranty
P47,500
6 mos. 0% interest
P7,917/mo.
For Citibank and BPI card holders only.
ixtreme H801
Packard Bell iXtreme (New Model)
Mainstream Model
• Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 3.0GHz with HT Technology
• Microsoft® Windows® XP Home® Edition
• (800FSB) 1 MB L2 Cache
• 256MB DDRAM (333MHz)
• 80.0 GB HDD (7200RPM)
• 17" Monitor, silver / black
• 1.44MB Floppy Drive
• Combo Drive (DVD 16X, 24X48X CD-RW)
• Integrated Graphics
• 64MB Video Memory Shared
• 56Kbps Data / Fax V.92 Modem
• 10 / 100 Ethernet
• Integrated Audio
• Storm 2.1 Speakers-White
• Packard Bell iXtreme PS2 Keyboard
• Packard Bell iXtreme PS2 Mouse
• 6X USB 2.0
• Danube ALT Silver Black Chassis
• 1 Year local Warranty
P59,000
6 mos. 0% interest
P9,833/mo.
For Citibank and BPI card holders only.
*FREE licenced softwares!
Microsoft® Windows® XP Home® Edition
Microsoft® Word
Home Entertainment
Nero DJ
Music & Video Maker G6
Photo Express 4.0 SE
Photo Explorer 7.0 SE
PowerDVD 4.0 XP
Splinter Cell
Civilization 3
Security & Internet
Norton AntiVirus
Master CD Creator
Easy Crypto Delux
Smart Restore - Recover Program
Internet Plug-In
(Quick Time, Acrobat Reader, Shockwave Player, Flash Payer, Real Player)
Education
Britannica Encyclopedia SE
*Available iMedia Entry Model and iXtreme Model ONLY!
AVAILABLE AT: COMPLINK & E-HUB
SM Megamall: 6373988 / 6316958 • Galleria: 6329896 / 97 • Park Square: 8931489 / 8931491 SM North: 9209140 / 41 • Shangri-la 6374444 / 45 • SM Southmall 8019908 • SM Bacoor: 046-4177761 / 63 • E-Hub Computers: Alabang Town Center 7750140 / 41 • Eastwood CyberMall 6873212 / 6871430
0% interest, applicable only if monthly dues are paid in full. • Availment of the promo is subject to bank approval.
Intel, Intel logo, Intel inside, Intel inside logo, Intel Centrino, Intel Centrino Logo, Celeron, Intel Xeon, Intel Speed Step, Itanium, Pentium, and Pentium III Xeon are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or it's subsidiaries in the United Sates and other countries
Packard Bell is the consumer brand of NEC Computers International.
Packard Bell is one of Western Europe's most popular consumer PC brands.
Packard Bell is one of the fast gaining player in the Desktop PC Market.
Packard Bell
UPGRADE YOURSELF

Sun's 24/7 plan stays—NTC

From page B3

itel. It has not been able to make a headway until it launched 24/7 in October. Since then, it had more than doubled its subscriber base from 700,000 in September to about 1.5 million to date.

The 24/7 plan allows Sun Cellular customers to call and text within the network, without any limit, for an additional fee of P250 a month or P100 for 10 days.

Pilipino Telephone Corp., a unit of Smart Communications Inc. and Innove Communications of Globe Telecom Inc. have asked the NTC separately to stop Sun Cellular from offering 24/7.

The two alleged that Digitel was failing the service performance benchmark of the NTC.

"We are pleased with the decision of the NTC to deny the requests of Smart and Globe. We have always believed that the complaint they filed have no merit," said Digitel senior vice president William Pamintuan.

"We commend the NTC for protecting the interest of consumers in ensuring that free and real competition is introduced in the cellular market," he added. Smart and Globe officials could not be reached for comment.

Last week, a lawmaker called for a congressional investigation into the pricing mechanism of telecom companies after accusing Smart and Globe of behaving like a cartel that wanted to kill competition in the industry.

"I move that we investigate the current state of the telecom industry, including the processes and dynamics of determining the rates and charges for mobile services to encourage competition, prevent monopolist control or cartelization of the industry and to protect consumers," said Isabela Rep. Rodolfo Albano in a privilege speech.

He pointed out that the Gokongwei carrier only accounts for less than 5 percent of the wireless industry still dominated by Smart with its more than 19 million subscribers and Globe's 12.5 million customers as of end-2004.

Albano said Sun Cellular was in no position to be the "predator" in the wireless phone industry.

"Sun Cellular has made us realize that mobile phone services should not be as expensive or as costly as they are now being offered by the two dominant telecom firms," the congressman said.

NOT ENOUGH COLLECTION

BIR seen raising tax on motels

By Michelle V. Remo

THE BUREAU of Internal Revenue plans to raise the tax slapped on motel operators, believing the government is still not getting what is due from this sector.

Revenue Commissioner Guillermo Parayno Jr. said a team was formed to come up with a study on motel owners' break-even and return-on-investment (ROI) levels. The result of the study, he said, would be the basis of the adjustments that will be made on the threshold amount of their tax liabilities.

Under the presumptive taxation applied to motel owners last year, their taxable income was set using the assumption that each room is visited by an average of 1.5 times per day.

"For some motels, four times may be more realistic," Parayno said in an interview with reporters.

Presumptive taxation, also called predictive auditing, is a system of determining one's tax liabilities using income benchmarks. This system of taxation can be applied by the BIR on hard-to-tax sectors.

Motel business is considered hard to tax because clients do not usually ask for receipts.

The BIR, hard-pressed to continually raise revenue collection amid the government's serious fiscal problem, decided last year to apply presumptive taxation on motels.

Parayno said that since the application of presumptive taxation on motel owners, the BIR's tax collection from this sector had grown by 20 percent.

"This is already a victory for the BIR," he said.

But he added that despite the growth in tax collection, the BIR believed the government should be collecting more from this sector. He said the presumptive taxation using a room turnover rate of 1.5 times might be too low.

The BIR said that aside from motel operators, it would also look at other hard-to-tax sectors where presumptive taxation could be applied.

CAP: The root cause

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

Honesto C. General

THAT WAS quite a media blitz College Assurance Plan (CAP) waged last week. First, there was a full-page ad, presumably by CAP's sales agents, espousing the cause of Filipino business. The full-page ad by CAP itself was the final salvo.

CAP invented the pre-need industry. It was such a promising business that one could wonder why nobody in the whole, wide world had thought of it before. Soon, other pre-need firms sprouted like mushrooms.

Pre-need plans competed strongly with life insurance policies that some of the life companies had to set up their pre-need subsidiaries. Even the GSIS has joined the bandwagon.

So, how come CAP is in such terrible financial trouble? The Securities and Exchange Commission has canceled CAP's license to sell more pre-need plans. In the insurance industry, this happens when the Insurance Commissioner thinks an insurance company is possibly bankrupt.

What happened? Former SEC Chair Perfecto Yasay claims that CAP is a victim of a dastardly plot cooked up by Sen. Mar Roxas and a foreign pre-need firm. Maybe so, but CAP has no one else to blame but itself.

CAP and Yasay sound as if the problem is just a matter of accounting. But the problem goes far beyond just being able to present a good-looking financial statement.

Let us go back to the beginning. CAP started by offering the educational plan, hence the name of the firm. This plan is now usually referred to as the traditional plan.

The plan was so cheap that parents gobbled it up. In 1983, my son Jim bought a plan for his son Cayo's college. The plan cost P243 monthly for five years. The gross price of P14,580 was fully paid by 1988. Incredibly, the plan guaranteed to pay Cayo's tuition, no matter what the amount might be when he entered college. On top of this, if Jim had died within the five-year term, the plan would have been considered fully paid.

Cayo entered college in 2000. CAP paid the tuition in full and on time, every time. When he graduated last year, CAP's total payout was a staggering P330,948.

The plan was the best investment Jim ever made. On his own, Jim would not have been able to afford the enormous tuition fees. In this sense, CAP's ad was correct. CAP was a big, big help in sending Cayo through college.

But Cayo's case was a complete disaster for CAP. How could CAP make P14,580 grow into P330,948 in 12 years, and still make a profit?

Clearly, CAP did not foresee the tremendous surge in tuition fees. This fatal miscalculation is the root cause of CAP's present problems. This needs repeating, this fatal miscalculation is the root cause of CAP's present problems.

A lowly clerk in the underwriting department of a non-life insurance company would have set a maximum limit of liability. If CAP were supervised by the Insurance Commission, the terms and conditions of the plan would have been subject to the Commission's prior approval. Surely, the eagle-eyed technical staff would have seen the plan's serious flaws.

The traditional educational plan was withdrawn from the market sometime ago. The educational plan now offered by pre-need firms has a fixed maximum limit. But I suspect a large number of the 90,230 college students now being served by CAP is still covered under the traditional plan.

One of them is Jim's second son Rafa. The plan's gross price of P18,599 was fully paid in 1990. He has four trimesters to go before graduation.

His last trimester tuition of about P44,000 was due last month. Jim had to advance the money because CAP's check bounced. CAP told Jim that he would get a good check by the end of next month. Then what?

What's ahead for CAP? If CAP was smart enough to get mired in this terrible mess, it should be smart enough to get out of it.

Smart president elected to 23-man GSMA board

NAPOLEON L. Nazareno, president and chief executive officer of Smart Communications Inc., was elected to the 23-member board of the GSM Association (GSMA) for 2005 to 2006.

GSMA, the global trade association representing the GSM industry, has more than 670 second- and third-generation mobile operators and more than 140 manufacturers and suppliers that serve more than 1.2 billion customers around the world.

Founded in 1987, GSMA has played a pivotal role in the development of the GSM platform and of the global wireless industry. Its members and staff have created the landscape of success for global mobile communications via GSM, the world's first global wireless network.

Nazareno, who is also president and CEO of SMART parent firm Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT), joins a distinguished group of international leaders in the telecommunications industry, led of Craig Ehrlich, board member at Hong Kong-based Hutchison Mobile Communications, who has been reelected GSMA board chair for 20050-2006.

"Since the restructuring of the GSMA two years ago, our board has enabled us to move forward on a series of strategic, commercial and public policy matters for the benefit of operators and their customers," said Ehrlich from a statement by GSMA. "I am looking forward to continuing the momentum with our board, in the new term."

PSBank Prime TIME DEPOSIT
✓ 8.5% interest p.a. - GUARANTEED
✓ No withholding tax
✓ Only P50,000 minimum deposit
✓ 5 - year Time Deposit
✓ Monthly crediting of interest
Visit any of our 139 PSBank branches nationwide.
EastNet Member of the PDIC Maximum Deposit Insurance for each Depositor P250,000.00
Quoted rate is for a limited time only and is subject to change without prior notice.

xpc The Future Computer www.shuttle.com
Sexier, more powerful and upgradeable than obsolete tower pc
Shuttle we create
PC SHACK (02) 410-0755 / 727-5616 www.pcshack.com.ph

Learn how to do business in this BILLION DOLLAR INDUSTRY!
Special Seminar on Understanding the
Medical Transcription
Outsourcing Business
February 24 - 26, 2005
From the ITO Group
• #1 in medical transcription training and development with 11 MT Training locations nationwide
• #1 manufacturer of medical transcription production equipment
Overview: This 3-day seminar is designed for entrepreneurs and professionals who are interested in venturing into the Medical Transcription Outsourcing Business.
The program consists of the following modules:
1. Introduction to Medical Transcription (MT)
2. Offshore MT Industry and Market Assessment
3. MT Industry in the Philippines - An Outlook
4. General Legal Issues for MT Companies (HIPAA)
5. Marketing the Service (Tricks of the Trade)
6. Quality and Productivity for MT Companies
7. Process and Delivery for MT Companies
8. Resource Requirements
9. Manpower Requirements
10. Supply Consolidation - MT in a BOX
11. Successful HR Management
12. Financial Management for Local MT Production
SAVE MILLIONS OF PESOS IN CAPITAL! Back Due to Insistent Public Demand!
Register Now! LIMITED SLOTS ONLY!
IT Outsource - MTC G/F Urban Bldg. 405 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Bel-Air, Makati City
890-7319 / 72 : 896-9973 / 78 www.mtcacademy.com admin@mtcacademy.com

THE STAREX IS no.1 BECAUSE OF
In gratitude, we're giving you these amazing rewards to choose from!
Because you have made us the no.1 van in the Philippines*, we're celebrating this achievement by giving you an exclusive selection of thanksgiving treats. Every purchase of a Starex Covec F (non-CRDi) model entitles you to any of these special gifts. It's all on us, all for you - because you have brought us to the top!
Thanksgiving Treat 1: 8" (20.32 cm) LCD Monitor and In-dash DVD player
Thanksgiving Treat 2: Home Theater System • HY-29TM5 Hyundai 29" (73.66 cm) Color TV • NDR-400 DVD Player
Thanksgiving Treat 3: P20,000.00 Discount for Cash or Term Buyers
Hurry! Avail of a Starex at your nearest Hyundai dealer and grab the treat you desire NOW!
Promo starts January 24 up to March 15 only.
Color may vary from actual unit.
*Based on CAMPI 2004 reports, Van Category
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0319, Series of 2005
HYUNDAI Drive your way
HYUNDAI ALABANG - Tel. Nos.: (02) 800-1771, (02) 800-7344, (02) 802-3571, (02) 802-3653 • HYUNDAI COMMONWEALTH - Tel. Nos : (02) 951-2201 to 10 • HYUNDAI E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE. - Tel. Nos.: (02) 727-6394, (02) 413-1848, (02) 251-0018, (02) 253-1908 • HYUNDAI EDSA - Tel. Nos.: (02) 882-2433, (02) 882-2432 • HYUNDAI MAKATI Tel. Nos.: (02) 830-0013 to 17 • HYUNDAI ORTIGAS - Tel. Nos.: (02) 723-9101 to 07 • HYUNDAI QUEZON AVENUE - Tel. Nos.: (02) 374-3911, (02) 411-2720 • HYUNDAI BACOLOD - Tel. Nos.: (034) 433-3510, (034) 435-0268 • HYUNDAI CABANATUAN - Tel. No.: (044) 464-2878 • HYUNDAI CAGAYAN DE ORO - Tel. Nos.: (088) 855-4406 to 07 • HYUNDAI CEBU - Tel. Nos.: (032) 346-2724, (032) 345-4146, (032) 345-0324 to 26 • HYUNDAI DAVAO - Tel. No.: (082) 235-2955 • HYUNDAI ILOILO - Tel. Nos.: (033) 320-7020, (033) 508-8878 • HYUNDAI LA UNION - Tel. Nos.: (072) 712-8887 to 88 • HYUNDAI LAGUNA - Tel Nos. (049) 411-5650, (02) 520-8211, (02) 520-8250 • HYUNDAI PAMPANGA - Tel. Nos.: (045) 961-1184, (045) 961-3977
Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI) is the exclusive distributor of Hyundai vehicles and Hyundai MOBIS parts in the Philippines.

PLDT launches own unlimited call plan

By Clarissa S. Batino

FOLLOWING the lead of its competitors, the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company has dropped the rate for its more than 21 million fixed-line and wireless customers.

PLDT has launched its own unlimited, within-network promo rate of P10 for all PLDT calls anywhere in the country, as well as to all Smart and Talk 'N Text mobile subscribers regardless of how long each call takes.

PLDT rivals Globe Telecom Inc. and Digital Telecommunications. Phils. Inc. are offering similar buffet pricing. Globe's Innove Communications Inc. is offering a "one country, one rate" price of P650 a month for all within-network landline calls anywhere in the country.

Also, Digitel's Sun Cellular has been offering its 24/7 plan since October, which allows subscribers unlimited call and text, within the network for an additional fee of P250 a month or P100 for 10 days.

Butch Jimenez, head of PLDT's retail group said the flat P10 promo rate was designed to encourage the use of landline telephone units and allow the telecom giant to gain more subscribers.

"Major independent phone companies in the provinces and PLDT subsidiaries and affiliates such as PLDT Clark Telecom Inc., Subic Telecommunications Company Inc. and PLDT-Maratel Inc. are also included," Jimenez said. "All told, the plan is open to over 21 million subscribers—a base no other phone company can provide."

In the last 4 years, PLDT said it had lost about 350,000 customers who opted to avail themselves of wireless plans.

Before the new P10 promo, PLDT charged P5 per minute for national direct distance or NDD calls and P13.73 per minute for calls to mobile phones.

"PLDT fixed line subscribers now have to pay only P10 per call regardless of how long the call takes," said Jimenez.

He explained that the new pricing scheme follows the P50 daily flat rate that PLDT offered only during Christmas and New Year's day.

"We expect an increase in new subscribers from these affordable call plans that we have initiated," said Jimenez.

"The results of our earlier tests proved encouraging," the PLDT executive added. "So we are again launching a promo that will make NDD calls, and calls to Smart and Talk 'N Text, even more affordable."

He said that with the new rate, PLDT should be on track to reverse that trend and start registering a net gain of subscribers for 2005.

PLDT's Smart and Talk 'N Text have more than 19 million subscribers, while fixed-line customers number more than 2 million.

Jimenez said reconnection figures looked promising for PLDT. In 2002, only 32 percent of those temporarily disconnected requested reconnection. In 2003, 30 percent sought reconnection.

In 2004, reconnection rate went up to 50 percent. For 2005, PLDT is targeting a reconnection rate of over 70 percent, according to Jimenez.

"One of our main objectives in the retail business group is to make the landline relevant again to our subscribers, our recent moves seem to prove we are in the right direction," he said.

Recently, PLDT also drove down the price of its Internet dial-up service to a promo monthly plan of P99.

PLDT Vibe would provide more than 99 hours of Internet use monthly.

"The subscriber uptake of our new Vibe plan has been overwhelming," said Jimenez.

"If there is one thing that will make a PLDT subscriber keep his landline, it will be access to the Internet," he said. "So this strategy allows us to be successful on two fronts—generating additional revenue and keeping our landline subscribers hooked."

BSP seeks mandate to raise penalties for erring banks

By Doris C. Dumlao

BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura is asking lawmakers to give the BSP the mandate to impose a tenfold hike on the minimum fine for erring banks—from the current P30,000 to P300,000.

Reacting to a criticism from Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile that the BSP had penalized British bank Standard Chartered Bank with only P30,000 after the bank was found to have engaged in unauthorized sale of unregistered securities, Buenaventura said the BSP needed charter amendments to be able to raise the monetary penalties.

"That's exactly what we're asking them ... to increase the monetary penalties per transaction to P300,000," Buenaventura said.

The figure represents the maximum amount of fine the BSP can slap per violation of any banking regulation, as well as the maximum daily fine for every day of violation until it is remedied.

In a recent privilege speech, Enrile who is also vice chair of the Senate's committee on banks and financial institutions, accused Standard Chartered of selling unregistered securities which were "high-risk foreign mutual fund securities, falsely advertised and marketed as safe investment haven for our foreign residents and local nationals."

Buenaventura said the BSP had indeed found out that the sale of the securities were illegal, but it was authorized by its charter to slap only P30,000 in fines. He also said Standard Chartered had stopped selling those securities when the BSP found out that these were illegal.

The BSP chief said there was a need to jack up the measly fines to curb violations of banking regulations.

In a recent hearing at the Senate on the proposed BSP charter amendments, Buenaventura said the petition for higher penalties did not sit well with some lawmakers.

He said the solons were concerned that the higher penalties could be abused by unscrupulous BSP officials.

Moratorium on service contracts urged

By Abigail L. Ho

THE DEPARTMENT of Energy wants to impose a moratorium on new petroleum, geothermal and coal service contract applications beginning Mar. 31 to prepare for the launch of the Second Investment Promotion and Contracting Round.

Energy Secretary Vincent Perez said in a statement that, should the moratorium be implemented, only contract applications received before Mar. 31 would be processed.

The DOE hopes that the Second Philippine Contracting Round (PCR-2), an event that is geared toward the development of the country's petroleum, geothermal and coal resources, would be as successful as last year's PCR-1.

Perez said that as a result of PCR-1, the DOE likely would soon award the petroleum service contract to a consortium led by Australian natural gas firm BHP Billiton Petroleum.

The consortium had submitted bids to explore parts of the Southern Sulu Sea.

For PCR-2, the DOE has identified several areas off West Palawan, Sulu Sea and other sites to be offered to potential investors for exploration and development.

Also, the DOE's First Geothermal Bidding Round (Geothermal 1) held last year resulted in bid offers from three firms for the development of two geothermal sites in the country.

Two companies proposed to develop the Rangas-Tanawon geothermal site in Sorsogon, while another firm wanted to undertake the optimization of the Philippine National Oil Co. Energy Development Corp.'s North Cotabato geothermal field in Mindanao.

For the second geothermal contracting round, the DOE would be offering areas in Biliran, Batangas, Compostela Valley, Bataan and Mindoro Oriental to prospective investors.

Because of the high-risk and high-cost nature of petroleum exploration, the DOE is inviting foreign firms to participate in the business.

Profit-taking ...

From page B1

within historical average figures of about $3 billion or so. We don't think it bodes ill for the economy unless it becomes a trend," an analyst from a local brokerage firm said.

In terms of corporate earnings, among those that reported last week was Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co. (Metrobank), which said its unaudited net income for the year 2004 jumped 20.2 percent compared to the previous year.

Net income of the parent bank reached P3.6 billion in 2004, an increase of more than P611.5 million from P3 billion in 2003. The improvement in net income was largely due to the strengthening of the bank's core business.

San Miguel Corp., the country's biggest food and beverage firm, also said it earned P8.08 billion last year, up nearly 10 percent from P7.4 billion in 2003. Last year, consolidated operating income grew more than 20 percent due to higher domestic and international beer volumes.

Property stocks were also higher last week such as Megaworld Corp., Filinvest Land Inc. and Ayala Land. First Philippine Holdings Corp. was also among the top traded after reports that unit Manila North Tollways Corp. took over the operations of the North Luzon Expressway. *Elizabeth L. Sanchez*

DOF bucks bill. . .

From page B1

the principle behind Pera, considering the low savings rate in the country, but that the scheme should be implemented after the government has solved the deficit problem.

The DOF also raised the concern that people might simply shift their existing savings account into Pera to avail themselves of the incentives, and therefore defeat the purpose of improving the country's poor savings rate.

Government documents showed that national savings rate in the Philippines stood at only 23 percent of gross domestic product in 2002.

The figure compared poorly with Singapore's 52 percent, Malaysia's 46.1 percent, China's 38.5 percent, Thailand's 33.1 percent, Hong Kong's 30 percent, and South Korea's 30 percent.

In 2004, the savings rate was even projected to have dwindled to only 14 percent of GDP.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said improving the savings rate in the country was vital to developing the domestic capital market. With more savings comes more investment activities, it said.

The BSP, together with private banks, is working on the development of the capital market through the creation of a fixed-income exchange (FIE). FIE, which is targeted to be launched as soon as next month, will be an open market for debt instruments, the purpose of which is to promote investment.

With this view, the BSP is pushing for the immediate passage of the Pera bill because it will complement efforts to develop the capital market.

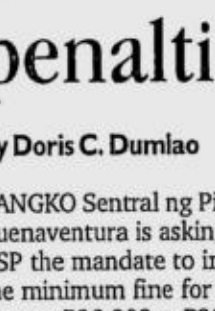
Under Sen. Ralph Recto's version of the bill, contributions to Pera shall be 100 percent deductible from one's taxable income.

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of February 11, 2005)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	28,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	29.5	30	29.5	30	228,900
Bank of the Phil. Islands	57	57.5	57	57.5	669,600
China Banking Corp.	575	575	575	575	9,330
Citystate Savings Bank	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	1,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	48	48	48	48	11,000
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.45	0.46	0.44	0.45	520,000
International Exch. Bank	18.5	18.5	18.5	18.5	919,300
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	35	35.5	34.5	35.5	6,006,000
Philippine National Bank	28	30	28	30	321,500
Phil. Savings Bank	35	38	35	38	800
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	15	15	14.75	15	35,200
Security Bank Corp.	33	33.5	33	33.5	33,800
Union Bank of the Phil.	29.5	30	29.5	30	57,900
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Bankard Inc.	0.93	0.93	0.93	0.93	30,000
First Abacus Financial	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	70,000
Filipino Fund Inc.	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	2,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	2450	2470	2450	2450	1,050
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	2.04	2.08	2.04	2.08	91,000
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	125	125	124	124	2,340
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1780	1780	1780	1780	1,870
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	20,000
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	1.64	1.68	1.6	1.68	16,549,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	930	935	930	930	21,700
Ipeople Inc.	4.7	4.75	4.7	4.7	491,000
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.05	0.055	0.05	0.05	700,000
Ism Communications Corp.	0.038	0.039	0.037	0.038	6,700,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	4,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	10,071,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1415	1420	1415	1420	163,010
Ivantage Corp.	0.66	0.68	0.66	0.66	1,200,000
Philweb Corp.	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.012	210,600,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	17.5	18	17.25	17.5	189,800
Manila Electric Co. B	27	28.5	26.5	26.5	3,158,800
Petron Corp.	3.85	3.85	3.7	3.7	4,753,000
Salcon Power Corp.	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	10,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	1.62	1.64	1.6	1.62	1,767,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.86	1.88	1.86	1.88	190,000
Aboitiz Trans. Sys. Corp.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	5,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.5	980,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc	0.45	0.45	0.44	0.44	90,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	20,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.44	0.48	0.44	0.47	4,540,000
Fortune Cement Corp.	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	9,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	4.45	4.5	4.15	4.2	7,356,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.72	1.72	1.72	1.72	20,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	3.75	3.9	3.75	3.8	271,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	35	36	35	36	244,900
Jollibee Foods Corp.	26.5	26.5	26	26.5	723,300
RFM Corp.	0.8	0.8	0.77	0.8	290,000
Swift Food Inc.	0.35	0.36	0.35	0.36	160,000
San Miguel Corp. A	58	58	57.5	57.5	42,300
San Miguel Corp. B	78.5	78.5	77	77.5	40,900
Universal Robina Corp.	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6	24,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.27	0.28	0.27	0.28	570,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.0075	0.0075	0.007	0.0075	75,000,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg B	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	4,000,000
Ayala Corp.	8.4	8.6	8.4	8.6	10,175,000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.72	0.72	0.7	0.7	850,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	3.9	4.05	3.9	4.05	1,302,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	11.25	11.25	11.25	11.25	249,900
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	2,000,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.92	2.02	1.92	2	1,245,000
APC Group Inc.	0.46	0.46	0.43	0.43	6,140,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.008	0.0085	0.008	0.0085	165,000,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	70,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	20	20	19.75	19.75	9,800
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.15	0.16	0.15	0.15	300,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.06	1.08	1	1	20,015,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	1,150,000
CADP Group Corp.	1.04	1.2	1.04	1.2	25,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.26	0.27	0.25	0.25	6,730,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.7	0.73	0.65	0.67	18,030,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	5	5	4.75	4.8	5,130,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.0575	0.0575	0.0525	0.0525	22,200,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.6	1.74	1.58	1.62	4,069,000
Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp.	9.5	9.6	9.3	9.3	253,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	45.5	45.5	45	45.5	2,082,300
Global Equities Inc.	0.09	0.095	0.0875	0.0875	29,800,000
House of Investments Inc.	1.46	1.76	1.42	1.74	15,002,000
Ionics Inc.	1.72	1.74	1.7	1.72	527,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	3.05	3.05	3	3.05	802,000
Keppel Holdings	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.71	2,000
Macroasia Corp.	2.22	2.22	2.2	2.2	735,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.9	2.02	1.84	1.84	15,129,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.53	0.58	0.53	0.57	365,410,000
Polar Property Holdings	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	7,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	280,000
East Asia Power Res. Corp.	0.215	0.24	0.21	0.23	8,100,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	0.88	0.91	0.88	0.91	280,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	10,000
South China Resources Inc.	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	160,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.165	0.165	0.16	0.16	5,790,000
Vivant Corp.	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	10,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.185	0.185	0.165	0.185	1,710,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.24	0.245	0.24	0.245	840,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Matsushita Elec Phil Corp.	8	8.2	8	8.2	142,000
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.78	1.8	1.76	1.8	122,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	2,200,000
Pryce Corp.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	300,000
Steniel Manufacturing	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.135	100,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.84	0.94	0.84	0.93	62,200,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	1.08	1.14	1.08	1.1	6,175,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.68	0.72	0.68	0.7	3,100,000
Manila Jockey Club	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.6	317,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.39	0.39	0.37	0.37	3,420,000
Philippine Racing Club	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	100,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp.(Pdr)	17.25	17.25	17	17	317,800
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.6	12,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	9.8	10	9.8	10	5,196,000
Araneta Properties Inc.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	320,000
Cityland Development Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.85	0.89	0.83	0.85	890,000
C&P Homes Inc.	0.41	0.43	0.39	0.41	56,430,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.19	0.19	0.18	0.18	4,440,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.57	0.59	0.55	0.59	141,240,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings Inc.	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	10,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2	2.12	1.94	1.96	21,032,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.24	4,880,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	200,000
Philippine Estates Corp.	0.175	0.175	0.17	0.175	3,570,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	4,000
Phil Realty And Holdings	0.3	0.31	0.28	0.29	7,510,000
SM Development Corp.	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.72	2,369,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	8.5	8.6	8.2	8.3	3,686,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.95	1.04	0.95	1	2,130,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	0.99	1.1	0.99	1.06	840,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.013	0.013	0.012	0.013	286,900,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	7.6	8.1	7.6	7.7	1,714,000
Benguet Corp. A	8.7	9.5	8.7	9.5	53,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	4	4.1	4	4.1	38,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.41	0.41	0.4	0.4	17,800,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.45	0.46	0.45	0.46	24,670,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.023	0.023	0.022	0.023	117,500,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.031	0.032	0.031	0.032	208,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	441,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	1.16	1.2	1.14	1.16	3,315,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	1.42	1.48	1.42	1.44	10,022,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	45.5	45.5	44	44	3,826,900
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.35	0.38	0.35	0.36	830,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.013	0.013	0.013	0.013	5,200,000
Interport Res.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	11,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0065	0.007	0.0065	0.007	386,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	128,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	400,000
Pacifica	0.012	0.012	0.012	0.012	1,000,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	57,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.13	0.14	0.125	0.13	27,310,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	10,000

ANG TAN GOLF CLUB & SHARES, INC.
SEC Licensed Golf & Club Shares Brokers No. 1057J
BUYING, SELLING, PLAYING RIGHTS?
connie ang
Trading Mgr./Real Estate Broker
24 HOURS TEL. NOS: 253-0008 • 321-0061 256-6427 • 256-3188 09175289988
ALABANG B-1,2/ORO,MILA/POEO-2,3/PO,BAGUIO-SOG/FORES B-1/BOTAG-7/PO,MAKAH-6,7/GS WOOD-3,7/EAGLE-1,6/LAUTENG-MILA/GOLF-11,3/7/11,5/WAKOK-6,5/ O HAY-1,7/O,SHERWOOD C-1,7/O,FONTANA A-1,0/GS WOOD B-6,7/O



Where you find the best.
VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com
JOB Market
JOBMarket ONLINE

G & W clubshares
SEC License Broker No.: A-17997
FREE PLAYING RIGHTS AVAILABLE
As of February 14, 2005
SHARES AVAILABLE

CLUB	SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club B	1,100,000	-
Alta Vista A/B*	-	220,000*
Baguio Country Club	Pls. Call	
Calatagan Golf	60,000	
Camp John Hay	190,000	
Canyon Woods	160,000	100,000
Capitol Hills	120,000	
Cebu Country Club	1,650,000	1,300,000
Celebrity Sports	130,000	100,000
City Sports Club Cebu	-	Pls. Call
Eagleridge A/B*/C**	225,000/200,000*/Pls. Call**	
Eastridge A	120,000	-
Forest Hills A/B*/C**	130,000/220,000**	150,000*
Manila Golf Corporate	Pls. Call	11,000,000
Manila Golf Individual	Pls. Call	
Manila Polo	2,250,000	-
Manila Southwoods A/B*	400,000/Pls. Call*	350,000/650,000*
Makati Sports Club	200,000	180,000
Metropolitan Club A/B*	180,000/200,000*	110,000
Mimosa C2/C3*	220,000	260,000*
Mimosa Golf Ind.	-	130,000
Mt. Malarayat A/B*	190,000	150,000/200,000*
Orchard A/B*/C**	190,000/280,000*/250,000**	310,000**
Puerto Azul	50,000	
Riviera Golf A/B*/C**	120,000/150,000*/200,000**	
Rockwell Leisure Club	200,000	
Royale Tagaytay CC	80,000	
Sherwood A/B*/C**	70,000/110,000*/150,000**	80,000*
Sta. Elena Golf A/B*	1,400,000	1,500,000*
The Palms Country Club	520,000	
Tagaytay Country Club	-	380,000
Tagaytay Midlands	700,000	850,000
The Country Club	2,000,000	
Valle Verde Ind.	120,000	
Valley Golf	Pls. Call	
Wack Wack Golf	Pls. Call	9,500,000

Tel. 7723246-49/8504151-52/8426731
8092038/(0917)3287789
E-mail:gwclubshares@pacific.net.ph

66 & R Club Shares
SEC License Broker #007575 * As of February 14, 2005

CLUB	SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino)	1,150,000	1,000,000
Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	1,200,000	-
Baguio Country Club	500,000	-
Calatagan Golf Club "A"	50,000	-
Calatagan Golf Club "B"	70,000	-
Camp John Hay	200,000	170,000
Canlubang	-	Please Call
Canyon Woods	140,000	-
Capitol Hills	120,000	100,000
Cebu Country Club	1,900,000	1,500,000
Celebrity Sports Club	120,000	-
Club Filipino	170,000	110,000
Eagleridge "A"	230,000	-
Eagleridge "B"	290,000	-
Eagleridge "C"	300,000	-
Forest Hills "A"	130,000	-
Forest Hills "B"	190,000	-
Forest Hills "C"	220,000	-
Makati Sports Club "A"	180,000	160,000
Makati Sports Club "B"	220,000	-
Manila Golf (Corporate)	-	11,000,000
Manila Golf (Individual)	-	11,000,000
Manila Polo	2,250,000	2,000,000
Manila Southwoods "A"	400,000	300,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	-	650,000
Manila Yacht Club	350,000	-
Metroclub "A"	-	100,000
Mimosa (Individual)	150,000	140,000
Mimosa (Corporate)	275,000	-
Mt. Malarayat Gold "A"	200,000	-
Mt. Malarayat Gold "C"	250,000	180,000
Orchard Golf Club "A"	210,000	170,000
Orchard Golf Club "C"	450,000	350,000
Quezon City Sports Club	*160,000	140,000
Rockwell	300,000	-
Spa & Lodge	550,000	500,000
Sta. Elena "A"	1,400,000	1,200,000
Subic Bay Yacht (Corporate)	170,000	-
Subic Bay Yacht (Individual)	120,000	-
Tagaytay Country Club	380,000	370,000
Tagaytay Highlands	800,000	750,000
Tagaytay Midlands	600,000	650,000
The Palms Country Club	-	500,000
Valle Verde (Individual)	120,000	100,000
Valle Verde (Corporate)	200,000	-
Valley Golf	300,000	200,000
Wack-Wack Golf Club	-	6,400,000

*PLAYING RIGHTS ALSO AVAILABLE
For more information, please call:
Tel.no 840-1761 (Fax 894-3021 (Mobile 0927-8765673
or e-mail at ggashare@mozcom.com
Penthouse, Pacific Star Bldg. Sen Gil Puyat cor. Makati Ave., Makati City
CLUB SHARES BY CREDIT CARD !!!
You may now charge your purchase or lease of clubshares using your credit card
Great deals for deferred payment transaction await major accredited cardholders
For inquiries, call our hotline 751-GOLF / trunk line 840-1761 or log on to www.ggaclubshares.com for more details

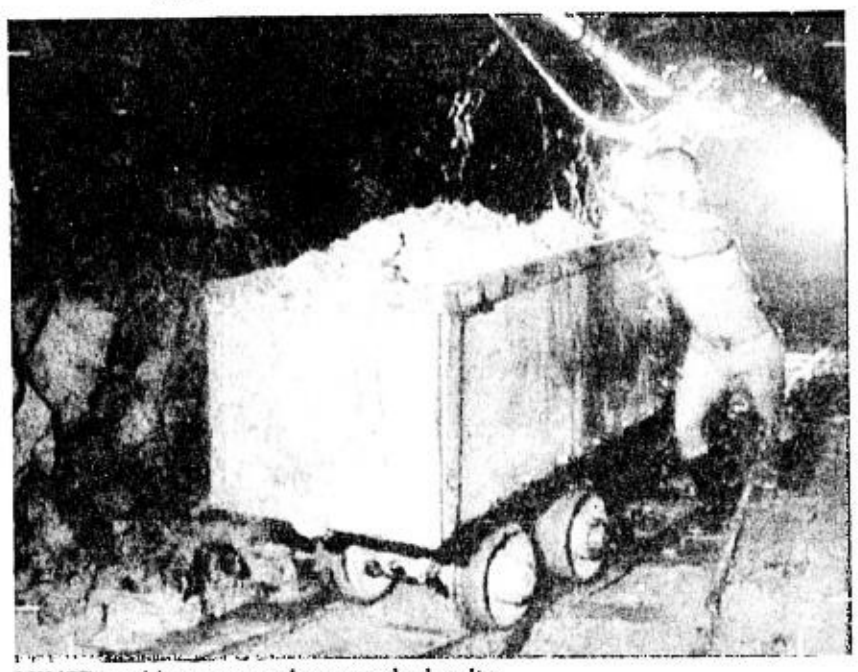
FRANCISCO V. DEL ROSARIO HOLDINGS, INC.
YOUR TRUSTED SPECIALIST BROKER SINCE 1982
SEC License #115
OUR 23rd Year
BUY/SELL GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB SHARES
As of February 11, 2005

CLUB	SELLING	BUYING
Alta Vista "B"		250K
Baguio Country Club	600K	450K
Camp John Hay		170K
Canlubang Golf Club	480K	450K
Canyon Woods	125K	
Capitol Hills "A"	100K	please call
Celebrity Sports Club	120K	-
Club Filipino	180K	
Club Punta Fuego	450K	400K
Eagleridge Golf Club "A"	200K	-
Eagleridge Golf Club "B"	290K	-
Eagleridge Golf Club "C"	280K	
Fontana "D"	60K	-
Hacienda Luisita "B"	please call	please call
Makati Sports Club	200K	180K
Manila Golf Club-Ind.		11.3M
Manila Polo Club	2.3M	2M
Manila Southwoods "B"		670K
Manila Yacht Club		250K
Mimosa C-3	300K	
Orchard Golf Club "A"	190K	
Orchard Golf Club "B"	-	295K
Orchard Golf Club "C"		300K
Quezon City Sports Club	150K	
Riviera Golf Club "A"	70K	please call
Riviera Golf Club "B"		140K
Spa & Lodge	550K	500K
Sta. Elena Golf Club "A"	please call	
Sta. Elena Golf Club "D"		1.5M
The Country Club at TH	430K	
Tagaytay Highlands	750K	
The Palms Country Club	550K	
Valley Golf Club	220K	
Wack Wack Golf Club	6.5M	6.5M

LESSONS for PLAYING RIGHTS also available
please call / inquire
AMIE MAGAT / VIRGIE LIM / REY CUEVAS / ROMY RIBAÑO
Tels. 818-6991 • 818-6948 • 818-6936 Fax 818-5453
E MAIL ADDRESS fvrhi@info.com.ph

Social responsibility of the mining industry

By Fidel V. Ramos
Former President of the Republic of the Philippines


MINER working at an underground minesite.

HISTORICALLY, we Filipinos have been a poor people sitting on a fortune. Fate has granted our archipelago mineral resources in abundance. Potentially, we could be the world's fifth-largest mineral producer.

Fate's challenge is for us to turn this national endowment into national wealth under the principle of sustainable development adopted by the Philippine government by its ratification in September 1992 of the United Nations covenants of the Rio-Summit of June 1992, otherwise known as Earth Agenda 21. That challenge we Filipinos have—until now—failed to meet.

In 2003, mining accounted for only 1.5 percent of our Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and only 1.8 percent of our exports. What is worse is that mining employed directly no more than 104,000 of our workforce of some 30 million people.

Mining Act of 1995

In my short remarks as President at the signing on March 3, 1995, of Republic Act No. 7942—now better known as the Philippine Mining Act of 1995—I emphasized the following:

"Today also, we establish a landmark for the mining industry as we sign into law this bill which updates the provisions of the last mining act passed in 1936. This new law will revitalize the Philippine mining industry. It functions both as a competitive advantage in our bid to join the more progressive economies of Asia and as a safety net for the over half-a-million Filipinos engaged in mining.

"To be competitive calls for an export and investment-led strategy—which are the main concerns of the mining industry. The abundance of Philippine minerals can guarantee a steady supply for the foreign market while we are assured that enough is left for domestic use under a conservative policy based on sustainable development.

"This law becomes the go-signal for the entry of foreign capital into mining. Many investors have signified interest in our mining industry but have waited for the passage of more equitable and globally competitive arrangements. The law addresses these by providing for four kinds of agreements available to investors as well as fiscal and other incentives for the mining companies, including foreign-owned ones.

"Of importance, too, are the provisions that call for social responsibility on the part of mining companies and for environmental protection and sustainable development of our resources. The social component will bring livelihood jobs and social development to mining communities and contiguous localities. The protection of the environment is ensured by several provisions, highlighted by the mandate to establish the Mines Rehabilitation Fund (MRF) to restore mining-affected areas to pristine conditions.

"The passage of this law is the fruit of government and private sector cooperation. We recognize the constant collaboration particularly of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Chamber of Mines of the Philippines (CMP) which is composed of representatives of various mining companies. "With this law, therefore, we are confident that Philippine mining will regain its stature as one of the major contributors of foreign exchange."

PERSPECTIVE

Out of Poverty

Whatever the critics may say, the only way to get people out of poverty permanently is to give them jobs and livelihood: any other solution, no matter how well-intended, is merely palliative.

Yet, if we are to begin reducing mass-poverty among our people, we need to grow, over these next 10-12 years, by a minimum of 7 percent annually. And if we are to grow by 7 percent, we need to re-invest at least 30 percent of our GDP every year.

But, on average, we Filipinos save only 19 percent of our GDP—much less than any of our neighbors at a comparable level of development. Even Indonesia and Vietnam save far more of their GDP than we do. This simple arithmetic tells us why foreign investment is so crucial to our economy. It also justifies government's efforts to rejuvenate our mining industry—which is certainly one of our few remaining comparative advantages in today's competitive world.

From the '30s to the early '80s, the Philippines was almost always ranked among the top five gold-producing countries of the world; from the mid-50s to the early '80s, we were always among the world's top 10 copper-, chromite- and nickel-producing countries.

These were the times where at one point, the mining industry accounted for 10 percent of the gross domestic product and 25 percent of the country's export trade. This was no meager feat for a country with a land area only about the size of the State of Arizona.

All told, the past recalls to us that mining was a major component of the national economy and a powerful weapon of mass upliftment (WMU) in our fight against poverty. And as the Philippines pursues the path of economic and social progress, we turn to mining once more as an industry to be strengthened in our efforts to develop sustainably and modernize.

Mining will create skilled jobs where they are most needed—in our stagnant hinterlands, while royalties will give local government units a measure of financial autonomy. Although the industry has never been a big direct employer—being largely equipment-intensive—it has widespread multiplier effects. For every job created in the industry, four or five indirect jobs are generated in upstream or downstream sectors.

Regional, global context

Mining is uniquely different from other industries, because aside from its macro-economic contributions—in particular to export earnings, government revenues, employment and countryside development—mining provides the raw materials basic to human civilization.

From toothpaste to eyeglasses and toilet bowls, to healthcare, computers and most industrial and commercial products, mining provides the minerals whose end products sustain and protect life. Any country, therefore, that produces minerals to benefit not only its people but all of mankind pursues a noble endeavor.

Except for the period 1941-1945 during the Second World War, the period from the mid-80s to the early '90s may be considered the darkest age of the Philippine mining industry. Low metal prices, high operating costs mainly brought about by the oil shortage and socio-political instabilities took their toll on the industry. With the lack of capital and worsening peace and order problems at a number of important minesites, the industry hit rock bottom in 1990.

In contrast, other countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Countries (Asean) saw their own mining industries emerging as frontliners of their economies during this same period. For this reason, I ordered the creation of a Special Task Force in 1993 to improve the situation and to take steps to reestablish the vital role that the Philippine mining industry plays in nation-building.

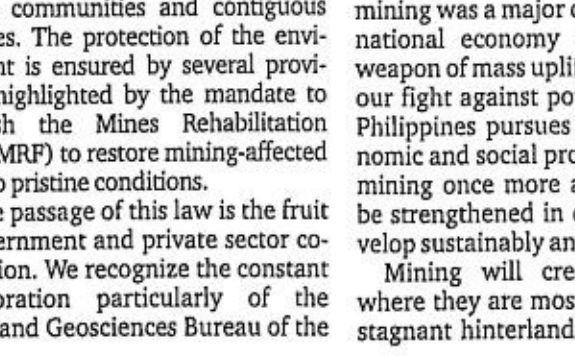
A Ramos administration bill—Republic Act No. 7729, passed in June 1994, which sought to reduce the excise tax for mineral products—started the industry's renewal by giving substantial financial relief to the ailing sector. That law demonstrated government's commitment to revitalize mining.

This was followed in March 1995 by Republic Act 7942 which consolidated government's efforts to accelerate mineral resources development.

(To be continued)

Amway
Helping people live better lives
The Amway Philippines headquarters is now at:
Ground Floor, Feliza Building
108 V. A. Rufino (formerly Herrera) Street,
Legaspi Village, 1229 Makati City
PHONE : (02) 814.8181
FAX : (02) 812.4184
Our Parañaque ADC will also be moving to this address by 16 February 2005.
We will be relocating our Quezon City ADC to Pavillion Annex, EDSA Central, Mandaluyong City, by 16 March 2005.

It's about performance.
We've taken all the powerful features that make big projectors rock and packed it into the compact, lightweight InFocus LP70+. Small and sleek, it fits your traveling lifestyle to a T. Change rooms, change audiences, change cities. The LP70+ is designed to impress - wherever you take it.
DLP Technology • XGA (1024 X 768) • 1400 ANSI Lumens • Lightweight (1.1 kg) • 4000 lamp hours
LP70+
For a free demo of this and/or other models, call 723-0601 or visit www.infocus.com
InFocus®
The Worldwide Leader in Digital Projection
Exclusively distributed by:
better solutions
AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
455 Gen. Bautista St., San Juan, Metro Manila
url: www.ati.com.ph e-mail: inquire@ati.com.ph
Fax: 723-7951
InFocus and X1 are registered trademarks of InFocus Corporation



SMC Networks
www.smc-asia.com
SIMPLE CONNECTIVITY
Enjoy great deals of SMC wireless & ADSL2+* solutions
XPERIENCE ADSL2+* PERFORMANCE
PHP 9,000.00 *SRP
SMC7904WBRA
Barricade™ g 4-port Wireless Router with Built-in ADSL2+ modem
PHP 5,000.00 *SRP
SMC7904BRA
Barricade™ 4-port Router with Built-in ADSL2+ Modem
PHP 3,900.00 *SRP
SMC7901BRA
BarricadeTM 2-port Router with Built-in ADSL2+ Modem
PHP 6,600.00 *SRP
SMC2804WBRP-G
Barricade™ g 4-port Wireless Router with Built-in USB Print Server
PHP 2,200.00 *SRP
SMC2835W
EZConnect™ g Wireless Cardbus Adapter
PHP 2,200.00 *SRP
SMC2802W
Connect™ g Wireless PCI Adapter
PHP 4,700.00 *SRP
SMCWBR14-G
Barricade™ g Wireless Broadband Router
PHP 3,100.00 *SRP
SMC2862W
EZConnect™ g Wireless USB Adapter
PHP 1,800.00 *SRP
SMC BT-10
EZConnect - BlueTooth Adapter
STAR BUY
SPECIAL BUNDLE PRICE
PHP 4,450.00 *SRP
SMC-EZ1016DT
EZswitch 16 Port 10/100Mbps Desktop Standalone Switches
+
SMC1244TX
EZ Card Basic 1 Port Autosensing LAN Card, Support WOL
*Users of SMC Networks ADSL2+ routers (SMC7901BRA, SMC7904BRA and SMC7904WBRA) will be able to enjoy download speed up to 24Mbps subjected to your ISP ADSL2+ service availability. All prices are inclusive of 10% VAT
Authorized Distributor:
MSI-DIGILAND PHILS. INC.
Topy 2 Bldg # 4 Economia St
Libis, Quezon City
688-3999 / 688-3818
MSI DIGILAND (PHILS.) INC
www.msi-digiland.com.ph
SMC NETWORKS STAR PARTNERS:
Advanced Solutions Inc - Tel. 526-4067 • ATP Peripherals (Phils) Inc. - Tel. 636-8069 • ComWorks, Inc. - Tel. 931-5256 • Creative Technologies Inc. - Tel. 400-4222 • i3 Technologies Inc - Tel. 753-3685 • Airborne Access - Tel. 633-9434 • Powernet Systems Corp. - Tel. 913-4444 • Infobahn Communications Inc. - Tel. 913-8888 • MG Business Systems,Inc. - Tel. 372-7926 • Micro-D International, Inc. - Tel. 812-2124 • Micro Pacific Technologies Co.Ltd. - Tel. 840-4563 • Microphase Enterprise Inc. - Tel. 812-8814 • Icom Solutions, Inc. - Tel. 750-5375 • NetEx Systems, Inc. - Tel. 930-1688 • Terabyte Solutions, Inc. - Tel. 632-1568 • Trends & Technologies, Inc. - Tel. 811-81 81 • Unison Computer Systems, Inc. - Tel. 913-8888 • PC Express - Tel. 718-1502 • Netpoleon Phils. Inc. - Tel. 687-6088

US rates seen to rise as Fed studies targets

PALO ALTO, California—The United States economy is on track for sustainable above-trend growth, and with monetary policy still accommodative, interest rates will keep rising, San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank president Janet Yellen on Friday said.

"Over time, the degree of accommodation will have to diminish, with policy reverting toward so-called 'neutral' for inflation to remain well contained," Yellen said. "The Fed is totally committed to price stability."

Separately, Fed Governor Ben Bernanke said he could not gauge the chances for the central bank adopting a numerical target for inflation, currently a hot topic as it prepares for a leadership change in early 2006.

Yellen and Bernanke, who both spoke at a Stanford Institute of Economic Policy Research conference, were the final Fed officials to take the podium before chair Alan Greenspan delivers eagerly awaited testimony on the US economy to Congress next week.

Yellen, who is not a voting member of the Federal Open Market Committee this year, signaled the Fed would continue to push up benchmark rates as it has done since June.

However, the task of deciding how much higher to raise rates is getting trickier, she said.

"The closer the actual rate gets to the neutral range, the more carefully we will need to consider each successive increase" by monitoring how economic activity and inflation develop, Yellen said.

The bank would face "more difficult choices" if output growth and inflation moved in opposite directions, she said, but for now risks were termed balanced.

Labor markets are gradually improving, but with the January jobless rate at 5.2 percent, the economy still has "at least a bit of slack," which should keep a lid on wage-based inflation, she said.

The US central bank has raised interest rates by a quarter percentage point at each of its past six meetings, removing accommodation at what it has termed a "measured" pace as the economy improves.

Yellen said a neutral Fed funds rate is commonly thought to be between 3 percent and 5 percent. That suggests the US is within two "measured" rate hikes of the low end of that range.

She warned a slowdown in productivity growth could stoke inflation, with trend productivity expansion of 2.5 percent cited as a level to watch.

Productivity growth, which ran at what Yellen termed an "astounding" rate in recent years, slowed sharply in the third and fourth quarters of 2004.

Earlier, Bernanke said prospects for the central bank setting an inflation target "depend on how things evolve, obviously, at the Federal Reserve."

The FOMC was set to discuss the merits of an articulated inflation objective at its meeting last week, but mostly to thrash out an idea that has been out of favor during the long Greenspan era, which will end in early 2006.

"What I've tried to do is try to raise the level of the debate, try to get people to look at the issue and talk about it seriously," said Bernanke, a long-time targeting advocate.

Yellen gave qualified support to targets, noting "some benefits" from setting a specific inflation goal but worrying that policy-making could become too rigid.

A potential target would be 1.5 percent on the core personal consumption expenditures (PCE) index, within a range of about a point or so, which would equate to about 2 percent in the core consumer price index, she said.

On Thursday, Minneapolis Fed President Gary Stern said inflation targeting was a "valuable idea," following a paper he coauthored in late 2004 advocating the concept.

Bernanke said optimal US inflation would be a 1 percent to 2 percent annual rise in the core PCE, which excludes food and energy costs. *Reuters*

GREENSPAN

Mga Kailangang Linawin Tungkol sa Bagong North Luzon Expressway

Sa pagbubukas ng bagong NLE, hangad naming linawin ang ilang mahalagang punto para sa kapakanan ng ating motorista.

1 Tanong:

Bakit tumaas ang toll fee?

Sagot:

Mataas ang toll fee kung ikukumpara sa dating bayad sa lumang NLEX. Pero, ngayon ang NLE ay bago na. Kung kaya't bago na rin ang toll fee.

2 Tanong:

Mas mataas nga ba raw ang toll fees sa NLE kaysa sa toll fees ng South Luzon Expressway (SLEX)?

Sagot:

Hindi po. Sa katunayan, mababa pa nga ng kaunti ang sinisingil sa NLE kung ikukumpara sa SLEX. Kung pag-uusapan naman ang SLEX sa ilalim ng Skyway, ito po ang mga pagkakaiba ng toll fees sa bawa't kilometro:

	Class 1 Vehicle (P)	Class2 Vehicle (P)	Class 3 Vehicle (P)
NLE	2.48	6.21	7.45
SLEX	4.17	8.35	12.52

Kung ikukumpara naman ang NLE sa Skyway sa SLEX, ito po ang makikitang pagkakaiba ng toll rates bawa't kilometro:

	Class 1 Vehicle (P)	Class2 Vehicle (P)	Class 3 Vehicle (P)
NLE	2.91	7.27	8.73
SLEX	8.85	17.71	26.56

3 Tanong:

Bakit tila hindi nakapagbigay ng sapat na abiso sa amin tungkol sa mga toll rates? Naging sanhi tuloy ito ng pagkabigla namin.

Sagot:

Ipagpaumanhin po ninyo. Pero matagal na rin po naming naibalita ang nalalapit na pagtataas ng toll fee sa mga pahayagan at tabloid, at maging sa radyo at telebisyon. Umikot rin po kami at nakipag-dialogue sa mga transport groups at sa iba't ibang sektor at nakipag-usap sa ating mga lider sa pamahalaan, mga LGU at lehislatura.

Gayunpaman, laging bukas ang aming pinto sa patuloy na pakikipag-ugnayan sa ating mga motorista at publiko.

4 Tanong:

Marami pa po kaming katanungan na di pa nasasagot ng lubusan? Saan po puedeng magtanong?

Sagot:

Maari po kayong tumawag sa aming Customer Service Center sa teleponong ito: 580-8910

5 Tanong:

Ano po itong Open System? Bakit pareho ang bayad ng nag-exit sa Valenzuela at ng nag-exit naman sa Bocaue samantalang parcho lamang galing sa Balintawak Toll Plaza?

Sagot:

Pahintulutan ninyo kaming magpaliwanag nang ganito: Wala pong ipinag-iba ito sa "flag-down rate" ng taxi. Sa pagpasok pa lamang ay kinakailangang magbayad na ng "flat fee."

6 Tanong:

Bakit ito tinawag na "Open System"?

Sagot:

Ang simpleng sagot ay ganito: Pagkatapos ninyong magbayad sa Balintawak toll plaza, "open" na po ang lahat ng toll exits mula Valenzuela hanggang Marilao. Tuloy-tuloy na kayong lalabas at di na kayo papara ulit sa mga nasabing exits.

7 Tanong:

Ano naman itong "Closed System"?

Sagot:

Ang "Closed System" ay nagsisimula sa Marilao northbound hanggang dulo ng NLEx sa Sta. Ines, Pampanga at pabalik. Ito ay pangkaraniwang sistema sa mga tollway kung saan ang kaukulang bayad ay batay sa bawa't kilometrong nilakbay.

8 Tanong:

Bakit kailangang magbabayad ng dalawang beses kung halimbawang lalabas ako sa tinatawag na closed system?

Sagot:

Ayon sa bagong sistema, dadaan kayo sa 'open' system at tatawid kayo sa "closed" system. Magbabayad muna kayo ng flat fee at pagkatapos, bawa't kilometro na ang bayad sa kahit saang exit na bahagi ng "closed system".

Halimbawa lamang po. Pagpasok ninyo sa Balintawak , magbabayad muna kayo ng P42. Pagkatapos, babayaran ninyo ang balanse ng kabuuang toll fee sa Dau Toll Plaza palabas ng bagong NLE.

Sana po ay nasagot namin ang inyong mga katanungan.

Hinihingi po namin ang inyong pang-unawa at suporta.

Sa mga sumusunod na araw, natitiyak naming makikita at mararamdaman ninyo ang mga benepisyong dulot ng bagong Expressway.

MANILA NORTH TOLLWAYS CORPORATION

2nd floor, Benpres Building, Exchange Road, Meralco Avenue Ortigas Center, Pasig City

ADVERTISEMENT

US firm mulls over trade raps against Japan manufacturers

LAKE FOREST, Illinois—Boat and engine maker Brunswick Corp. will consider filing a new trade claim against Japanese manufacturers if it sees continued evidence of "dumping" products at unfair prices, CEO George Buckley on Friday said.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Buckley assailed as "wrong and probably politically motivated" a ruling by federal trade officials last week rejecting the anti-dumping claim filed by Brunswick's Mercury Marine boat-engine subsidiary against Yamaha Motor Co. and other Japanese outboard motor-makers.

The ruling by the US International Trade Commission followed a 12-month investigation into the matter after Mercury asked federal officials to levy a tax on Japanese outboards. The Fond du Lac, Wisconsin-based division claimed its Japanese competitors were selling their engines in the United States at prices well below what they sold for in Japan—a practice known as dumping.

Mercury officials said after the Feb. 2 ruling that they would not appeal. But Buckley on Friday made it clear that Brunswick isn't necessarily letting the matter drop.

"If we see any further activities of dumping, we do not rule out the possibility that we'll file again," he said.

The ITC ruling came as a surprise since the US Department of Commerce had concluded in December that dumping occurred and set a temporary import bond of about 19 percent on all Japanese engines sold in the United States. Last week's ruling means the duty won't go into effect.

Russell Jura, general counsel for Yamaha Motor Corp. USA, said Yamaha has raised prices in the United States and lowered them in Japan in order to ensure it remains in compliance with anti-dumping law.

"We view the ITC decision as correct," he said.

Brunswick, one of the world's biggest leisure products companies, had 2004 sales of $5.23 billion. In trading Friday, its shares fell 24 cents, or 0.5 percent, to close at $45.63 on the New York Stock Exchange. *AP*

HP's ex-CEO got $1.57M in '04 bonus

WASHINGTON—Hewlett-Packard Co. paid Carleton Fiorina about $3.81 million in total compensation last year before ousting her as chair and chief executive this week.

The Palo Alto, California, computer company also agreed to dole out more than $21 million in severance-related payments to Fiorina, according to a proxy statement filed late Friday with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Among the payouts planned for the departing CEO is more than $7 million being awarded as part of the company's cash long-term performance program. As reported, Hewlett-Packard's board on Tuesday asked Fiorina to step down after what board chair Patricia Dunn said were several weeks of deliberations over the CEO's performance.

Under a severance agreement with Fiorina, Hewlett-Packard agreed to pay her $14 million in cash, which represents 2.5 times her annual salary and target bonus. The company will pay that amount, plus interest, in six months, the proxy said.

Fiorina also will collect $5.88 million under the company's 2003-04 long-term performance cash program. Hewlett-Packard will further pay her about $1.5 million which represents a pro-rated amount under the 2004-05 long-term performance program.

The severance agreement also calls for the vesting of Fiorina's roughly 6.07 million Hewlett-Packard stock options. Their average exercise price, the proxy said, is $35.73, well above Hewlett-Packard's Friday closing price of $21.30 a share. *AP*

Citigroup announces job cuts

NEW YORK—Citigroup Inc. on Friday said it is cutting jobs in its corporate and investment bank to save money, and a person familiar with the decision said more than 1,000 positions may be lost.

The cuts will affect about 2 percent to 3 percent of the unit's 48,000 employees worldwide, and are expected at all levels of the unit, the person said. New York-based Citigroup is the world's largest financial services company.

Chief executive Charles Prince is trying to cut expenses and exit businesses not focused on consumer or corporate banking, after a year when costs rose by one-third. He is moving away from predecessor and mentor Sanford "Sandy" Weill's vision of creating a one-stop financial supermarket.

"Prince and the board are focused on making money and having the most profitable business, not necessarily the most complete," said Michael Holland, the founder of Holland & Co. in New York. "Anything that makes sense, including terminations, are probably all on the table."

"We are making limited staff reductions, consistent with two fundamental objectives: keeping expenses low while continuing to invest in areas where we see growth opportunities," Citigroup spokesperson Christina Pretto said.

She declined to say how many jobs are being cut. *Reuters*

Yukos sues Russian companies

HOUSTON—Russian oil company Yukos on Friday said it had filed a reorganization plan with the US Bankruptcy Court and announced it was suing four Russian energy groups for more than $20 billion.

The moves came days before a hearing on whether Yukos' bankruptcy case can proceed in the United States.

The company, which made a surprise bankruptcy filing in Houston in December, said it had also filed a motion asking the court to send its tax dispute with the Russian government to an international arbitrator.

Yukos had sought bankruptcy protection in a failed attempt to halt the sale of its Yuganskneftegas oil production unit by Russian authorities seeking to recoup part of a disputed $27.5-billion tax bill.

Russian authorities sold Yugansk in December for $9.4 billion to the previously unknown Baikal Finance Group, itself subsequently bought by state-controlled oil company Rosneft.

Yukos said in a statement it was suing Baikal Finance Group, Rosneft, Russian gas monopoly Gazprom and former Gazprom unit Gazpromneft for in excess of $20 billion over their role in the sale of Yugansk.

Bankruptcy Judge Letitia Clark has scheduled a two-day hearing starting on Feb. 16 to hear arguments on whether the US court is the proper forum for the case.

The filing made on Friday asked the court to set May 1 as the deadline date for filing claims against the company.

Yukos listed total assets of $12.3 billion in its bankruptcy filing on Dec. 14 and liabilities of $30.1 billion, including the tax charges. *Reuters*

Foreign . . .

From page B1

in $209.64 million, mostly for makers of food products and beverages, chemical products, coke, refined petroleum/fuel products, motor vehicles, trailers/semi-trailers, paper/paper products, rubber and plastic products.

The transport, storage and communication sectors attracted $197.89 million in new direct investments, the bulk of which went to posts and communications.

Other sectors received the following amount of direct investments: construction ($66.84 million); electricity, gas and water ($32 million); financial intermediation ($95 million); wholesale/retail trade ($58 million), and real estate ($14.78 million).

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura expects foreign investment inflow to the country to significantly improve this year as investor sentiment had turned bullish since the start of the year.

Aside from additional direct investments recently made by Japan's Kirin Brewery Ltd., Buenaventura said more inflow was expected from the privatization of the National Power Corp.'s assets.

Foreign investments in a resurgent mining sector are also expected to boost inflow this year.

Due to the significant increase in foreign investments expected this year, the BSP has projected a turnaround in its balance of payment to a surplus of $464 million from a deficit of $282 million in 2004.

The BOP measures the foreign exchange transactions between the economy and the rest of the world. Its major components are the current account and the capital and financial account.

Give your family the best gift this Valentine's Day!

1 Savings
2 Health
3 Protection

INSULAR LIFE 95 years

Get the power of the 3-in-1 plan!

Get as much as P 6 Million in total benefits

ALL YOUR MONEY BACK GUARANTEED!

P2 Million Life Insurance Protection

PROTECT YOURSELF & YOUR FAMILY! Spare your family from the pain of emotional and economic loss. MONEY BACK PLAN will shoulder your family's expenses for as much as P2,000,000 in cash benefits from death due to natural causes during the ten-year paying period.

P2 Million Accidental Death Benefit

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR UNFORESEEN EVENTS. Provide financial support for your loved ones during these unplanned circumstances. MONEY BACK PLAN doubles your coverage in case of death due to accident - your beneficiaries will receive as much as FOUR MILLION PESOS IN CASH.

P2 Million Hospitalization Benefit

FREE YOURSELF FROM HOSPITALIZATION WORRIES. MONEY BACK PLAN will pay you a daily cash allowance for hospital confinement of as much as P3,000 a day or P90,000 per month for Plan 2000 up to a maximum of P2,000,000. Hospitalization benefits will start on the first day if confinement is due to accident or injury and on the fourth day if due to sickness.

ALL YOUR MONEY BACK GUARANTEED

IF YOU STAY HEALTHY! If no claims are made during the ten-year period of the policy, you get all your cash back! Money Back Plan will return all the premiums you paid in ten years. It's savings and protection at the same time!

ACT NOW!
Get the 3-in-1 plan now!

Step 1 Choose the plan that's best for you.

For Ages 20-55 Years Old

For your convenience, quarterly, semi-annual and annual payment plans are also available. Please call or write us for the rates.

AMOUNT OF BENEFITS

	PLAN 200	PLAN 500	PLAN 1000	PLAN 2000
LIFE INSURANCE PROTECTION	P 200,000	P 500,000	P1,000,000	P2,000,000
HOSPITALIZATION BENEFIT	P 200,000	P 500,000	P1,000,000	P2,000,000
ACCIDENTAL DEATH BENEFIT	P 200,000	P 500,000	P1,000,000	P2,000,000

AMOUNT OF PREMIUMS

AGE	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly
20-35	P 203.80	509.50	1,019.00	2,038.00
36-39	243.80	609.50	1,219.00	2,438.00
40-43	303.80	759.50	1,519.00	3,038.00
44-47	387.80	969.50	1,939.00	3,878.00
48-50	463.80	1,159.50	2,319.00	4,638.00
51-53	555.80	1,389.50	2,779.00	5,558.00
54-55	663.80	1,659.50	3,319.00	6,638.00

Step 2 APPLY NOW! Here's how.

1. Fill out the application COMPLETELY & ACCURATELY.
2. Sign and send your application via:
   MONEY BACK PLAN
   THE INSULAR LIFE ASSURANCE CO., LTD.
   P.O. BOX 1256 MCPO 0725 MAKATI CITY
3. or Drop by our Makati office at 5/F Insular Life Building, 6781 Ayala Ave., Makati City 1226

INSULAR LIFE INSURE DIRECT
30-MINUTE EXPRESS PROCESSING TIME

Get your MONEY BACK PLAN now!
Enrollment Ends:

MARCH 4, 2005

For more info CALL our hotlines!

Tel.: 892-31-09 • 892-31-71 • 893-80-32
817-30-51 loc. 5027 / 5028
(Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 12:00 nn & 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm)
Fax: 817-31-55 or 892-31-63 (24-Hours)
E-mail: idirect@express.insular.com.ph
Website: www.insularlife.com.ph

You may photocopy the MONEY BACK PLAN Application Form if you need additional copies for other interested applicants.

INSULAR LIFE Money Back PLAN — APPLICATION FORM

☑ YES! I want no worries! Send me my Insular Life Money Back Plan. I understand that the policy will be in force when I have made my first premium payment

ABOUT THE APPLICANT / OWNER / PAYOR (PLEASE WRITE IN PRINT)
FIRST MIDDLE LAST

Name:
Home Address:
Postal Code:
Home Tel. / Fax No.:
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy): / /
Age:
Place of Birth:
Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female
Occupation:
Monthly Income:
Company:
Business Address:
Postal Code:
TIN #:
SSS #:
Office Tel. / Fax No.:
Email Address:

Send my insurance documents to my: ☐ Business Address ☐ Home Address
I want the coverage of: ☐ PLAN 200 ☐ PLAN 400 ☐ PLAN 500 ☐ PLAN 800 ☐ PLAN 1000 ☐ PLAN 2000 ☐ Others ____
I prefer to pay: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-annually ☐ Annually
Insurance benefits are to be paid to: FIRST MIDDLE LAST
Beneficiary/ies:
Relationship to you:

1. During the past 5 years, have you consulted a physician for medical attention or surgical advice, or been confined in a hospital, sanitarium or similar institution? ☐ YES ☐ NO
2. Have you ever been told you had: cancer, diabetes, epilepsy, heart trouble, high blood pressure or tuberculosis, kidney disorder, nervous disorder or HIV-AIDS? (If YES, underline which ailment.) ☐ YES ☐ NO
3. Are you now in good health? ☐ YES ☐ NO
4. What is your HEIGHT? ft.
   WEIGHT? lbs.

Important: If you answered "YES" to any of the questions above, please give full details. Include doctor's name and address hospital nature, date and result of consultation, ailment or impairment. Use separate sheet if necessary

I understand that this insurance is issued based on the above statements, which I represent are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I authorize any physician, hospital, clinic or other medically-related facility to furnish The INSULAR LIFE Assurance Company, Ltd. with any information concerning my medical history and physical condition. I understand that the policy will not be in force until I have made the first premium payment.

✓ Signature of Applicant (SIGN HERE) Date

DECLARATION ON THE PROPOSED REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING POLICY(IES)

*For the APPLICANT-OWNER to answer
1. Total Life Insurance in Force on Proposed Insured | Company | Basic/Cover | Accident Rider/Year of Issue

2. Has there been or will there be any change in any existing insurance in force? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Will premiums for the insurance applied for be paid by a policy loan from any existing policy? ☐ Yes ☐ No
IMPORTANT: If yes, please furnish details (name of company, policy number, and amount of insurance being replaced).

REMINDER: It is usually disadvantageous to REPLACE existing life insurance policy(ies) with a new one. Some disadvantages are: • You may not be insurable on standard terms. • You may have to pay a higher premium in view of higher age. • You may lose financial benefits accumulated over the years.

Please note that in your own interest, we would advise that you consult your present insurer before making a final decision. Hear from both sides and make a careful comparison. You can then be sure that you are making a decision that is in your best interest.

PROPOSED INSURED (Printed Name and Signature) APPLICANT-OWNER (Printed Name and Signature (if other than Proposed Insured)

INSULAR LIFE AMCO.MBPVD.NA.0102

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

INFOTECH

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2005

E-mail: pr_info_tech@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Leo Magno

Text us your feedback: inquirer it name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Iligan teachers bag awards for IT education

By Erwin Oliva
Contributor

STA. FILOMENA, Iligan City—In this town five kilometers away from the city proper, Iligan City East High School used to be known as the "dumping ground" of students rejected by other high schools.

Last year, it produced two world-class teachers who've won accolades for the school, their sleepy hometown, and ultimately their country.

"I recalled, although it was quite painful and embarrassing, that parents came to me asking us to accept their children who were rejected by other schools," recalled Fely Yu, assistant schools division superintendent in Iligan City.

She recounted when the Iligan City East National High School had only seven teachers and a little building to call a school. That was 1985. Today, the school is home to two high school teachers—Lorna Tumampil and Sherlita Daguisonan—who both won Microsoft's first Philippine Innovative Teachers Leadership Awards, a national competition for technology-savvy teachers in the country.

Both teachers were sent to Singapore this year to compete in the regional competition involving countries in the Asia Pacific. Daguisonan eventually came home with the bacon, the first Filipino to win in Microsoft's new Asian Regional Innovative Teachers' Conference in Singapore. Daguisonan is scheduled to compete in Seattle come June this year.

In a simple awarding ceremony organized by the school, both teachers were awarded medals and a plaque. The school principal and their co-teachers however appeared more elated as they stressed how the school was able to produce tech-savvy teachers with meager resources.

The high school was a beneficiary of the PCs for Public High School program of the Department of Trade and Industry. It also received computers from the Department of Science and Technology early on.

In a speech during the awarding ceremony, Daguisonan was more sober as she dedicated her award to her fellow teachers.

"I feel that this award was not made for me as a woman but as a teacher," she began.

Encouraged to participate only at the last minute by her mentor Amy Buan (Intel Teach to the Future trainor), 42-year-old teacher Daguisonan was even surprised that she defeated more worthy opponents in the Philippines, and later from across the Asia Pacific in the regional finals in Singapore.

"I never dreamed of reaching the moon but I won a star," quipped this teacher, referring to her star-shaped plaque. "This reward is not mine but this is a message to the Iliganon teachers that we can be globally competitive. And all this should start in our classroom," she said.

Daguisonan developed a project called "Mathematics, power and fuel patrol," a result of her personal eight-year initiative to teach her students mathematics and energy conservation.

She organized students into "power patrols," requiring them to monitor power consumption in their respective homes. Through this activity, she was able to teach her students to discover ways to conserve energy, as they were encouraged to use all means necessary, including using technology, to gather and understand the information they culled.

In the process, she was also able to teach students the basic principles of mathematics—proportions, ratio, and percentage—while encouraging them to present their accomplishments in a Microsoft Power Point presentation.

"I'm not even a math teacher. I have a major in Chemistry. I began teaching mathematics only five months ago, or the same time I joined the contest. So when I joined the contest, I felt like a beginner trying to understand math. So it was also logical for me to choose an interesting activity for students that could arouse their interest as well as mine," she said.

She revealed that she drew inspiration from an idea presented by the Department of Energy during a regional science camp in Cotabato City. The agency had this "power patrol" idea for elementary students but she chose to apply it in her high school, she said.

"Several schools tried out the idea but after two years, most teachers lost interest in the agency's project except me," she recounted.

She added that she gave her students incentives, in the form of school supplies, to further motivate them. "I drew from my own pocket to buy those school supplies because it was my own initiative and not by the school."

Daguisonan is not a newbie in the use of computer technology for instruction. She was among those granted a two-month scholarship program in Malaysia back in 2001. There she was asked to courseware.

Having won the first national and the regional Innovative Teachers' Conference by Microsoft, she has recently felt all fired up with excitement, as she revealed plans to also start coaching her fellow teachers to join the next national contest.

"I'm now trying to double my efforts since I also want to encourage other teachers to join this contest," she said. "If not for the support of other teachers, I won't be here."

Asked for what advice she could give other teachers after winning the regional finals, she answered: "Love your work. If you do, then commitment and dedication will follow."

Known as the "industrial center in the South," Iligan City is now home to various industries including steel, flour, coconut oil, cement, and, of course, power. There are also a few patches of coconut farms in this city that is also the hometown of our President Macapagal-Arroyo.

To the teachers of Iligan City East National High School, however, the city is now also home to the country's most innovative teachers.

Local HP office moves on after Fiorina ouster

By Erwin Oliva
Contributor

FIORINA: Couldn't agree with board regarding HP's strategy after the Compaq acquisition. In the Philippines, however, HP says they "will continue with our current course and strategy."

THE PHILIPPINE subsidiary of Hewlett Packard said it will continue with its "current course and strategy" despite the departure of chief executive officer and chair Carleton S. Fiorina.

Fiorina stepped down as chair and chief executive officer six years after she joined the company.

"Despite her departure, HP will continue with our current course and strategy," said HP Philippines managing director Nilo Cruz in an e-mail interview with Infotech. "Our main focus is, and has always been, to deliver the products and services that will meet our customers' needs. We continue to show significant growths across all business units since the merger (with Compaq), and we aim to further extend our market leadership with key growth initiatives."

Cruz said HP Philippines will continue to communicate the same message to local customers that it remains an innovative, visionary and growing company that customers can rely on.

"HP Philippines recognizes the significant contributions of Carly Fiorina to reinvent and establish Hewlett Packard as one of the most recognized and trusted brands in the world," Cruz added. "She has become a formidable foundation and a respected symbol of HP who has successfully taken the company to market dimensions other people would never have thought possible. She is a very strong woman and we wish her good luck in her future endeavors."

In a statement, Fiorina admitted that her decision to leave the company was due to differences with the company's board of directors on how to execute HP's strategy.

Fiorina was the force behind the merger of the company with fellow computer manufacturer Compaq. But industry analysts have called the merger a lemon, as the company's stocks and business did not grow as much as it was expected.

"I respect their decision," she added, noting that HP is a great company and wished all HP employees more success.

UCPB PROPERTY MARKET

10% DOWNPAYMENT · 11% INTEREST · 10 YEARS TO PAY

VALENTINE AUCTION

FEBRUARY 26, 2005 • 9:00 A.M.
UCPB BLDG., MAKATI AVE., MAKATI CITY

76.57sqm	P 2,439,520.20
83.34sqm	P 2,707,716.60
95.83sqm	P 3,053,143.80
103.27sqm	P 3,364,536.60
111.95sqm	P 3,828,690.00
112.44sqm	P 3,855,567.60
13.37sqm	P 4,081,320.00
137.66sqm	P 4,608,856.80
142.18sqm	P 5,398,218.00
157.44sqm	P 6,018,120.00
159.06sqm	P 5,711,844.60
167.17sqm	P 5,951,232.00

WHOLE FLOOR

924.45sqm	P 34,278,606.00
924.46sqm	P 32,614,948.80
924.72sqm	P 34,288,617.60

HALF FLOOR

406.28sqm	P 16,564,035.60
409.94sqm	P 16,713,253.80

ATLANTA CENTER
Annapolis, Greenhills, San Juan

COMMERCIAL UNITS

17.40sqm	P 454,053.00
21.00sqm	P 571,200.00
22.25sqm	P 605,200.00
26.85sqm	P 730,320.00
32.56sqm	P 885,632.00
34.29sqm	P 894,797.00
45.63sqm	P 1,132,536.00
46.60sqm	P 1,156,612.00
58.10sqm	P 1,501,304.00
103.48sqm	P 2,568,373.00

RESIDENTIAL UNITS

36.36sqm	P 1,137,340.00	66.51sqm	P 2,038,919.00
36.54sqm	P 1,249,435.00	74.40sqm	P 2,105,892.00
43.20sqm	P 1,288,872.00	75.15sqm	P 2,235,712.00
62.63sqm	P 2,038,919.00	98.43sqm	P 3,053,790.00
65.00sqm	P 2,033,200.00	107.05sqm	P 2,865,996.00

PALM TOWERS
St. Paul St. San Antonio Village, Makati City

787sqm	P 2,494,341.83	1,387sqm	P 4,396,000.16
870sqm	P 2,757,404.57	1,567sqm	P 4,966,497.65
1,056sqm	P 3,346,918.65	1,662sqm	P 5,267,593.56
1,133sqm	P 3,590,964.80	1,830sqm	P 5,800,057.89
1,245sqm	P 3,945,941.02	2.012sqm	P 6,376,894.24

MOUNT MALARAYAT
RESIDENTIAL ESTATES
LIPA, BATANGAS

LAS PIÑAS CITY

UCPB - 1001 COMML LOT
LA 1,932sqm
Brgy Zapote Las Pinas City
Minimum Bid Price P 12,318,500 00

UCPB - 1002 HOUSE & LOT
LA 280sqm FA 303 12sqm
Polasapis Road Pilar Village
Minimum Bid Price P 2,450,500 00

UCPB - 1003 CONDO UNIT
FA 40 48sqm
Coastal Plaza Condo
Minimum Bid Price P 488,000 00

CALOOCAN CITY

UCPB - 1005 RSDL LOT
LA 240sqm
Coaster St Bruntonville Subd
Minimum Bid Price P 387,000 00

UCPB - 1006 HOUSE & LOT
LA 300sqm FA 174sqm
Vista Verde North Ph I-F
Minimum Bid Price P 1,044,000 00

MANILA

UCPB - 1007 COMML LOT
LA 832 7sqm
No 2244 Taft Avenue Malate
Minimum Bid Price P 29,651,200 00

MAKATI CITY

UCPB - 1011 RSDL LOT W/ OLD HOUSE
LA 746sqm
19 Paseo De Roxas Ext Bel - Air
Minimum Bid Price P 23 566,500 00

MANDALUYONG CITY

UCPB - 1015 HOUSE & LOT
LA 312sqm w/ 2 STOREY
No 274 Sta Lucia St Plainview
Minimum Bid Price P 4 635 000 00

UCPB - 1017 CONDO UNIT
FA 140 9sqm
Count Felicidad Wack-wack Rd
Minimum Bid Price P 4,350 000 00

MARIKINA

UCPB - 1018 HOUSE & LOT
LA 829sqm
Twin River I Bo Nanagka
Minimum Bid Price P 5,200,000 00

PASAY CITY

UCPB - 1019 PENTHOUSE
FA 290sqm
Unit 1502 15th Floor Marbella I,
Minimum Bid Price P 4 904,000 00

PARAÑAQUE CITY

UCPB - 1021 CONDO UNIT
FA 144 7sqm w/ PARKING
907 9th flr Chateau de Baie Condo
Minimum Bid Price P 3,421,250 00

UCPB - 1022 HOUSE & LOT
LA 417sqm FA 877 50sqm
Belhesda St Multinational Village
Minimum Bid Price P 6,885,000 00

UCPB - 1023 HOUSE & LOT
LA 563sqm
Jose Abad Santos Bayview Village
Minimum Bid Price P 8,774,500 00

UCPB - 1024 RSDL LOT
LA 99sqm w/ IMPRVT
L Gabriel Street
Minimum Bid Price P 1,575,000 00

PASIG CITY

UCPB - 1025 RSDL LOT
LA 224sqm
Bagong Ilahyo St Rosario 4 Subd
Minimum Bid Price P 780,000 00

UCPB - 1026 A CONDO UNIT
FA 224 14sqm
Park Chateau Garnet & Sapphire
Minimum Bid Price P 5,355,000 00

QUEZON CITY

UCPB - 1147 TOWN HOUSE
LA 341 2sqm
10th St New Manila
Minimum Bid Price P 10,161,000 00

UCPB - 1026 HOUSE & LOT
LA 586sqm
44 Zaragosa St Araneta Village
Minimum Bid Price P 6,981,500 00

UCPB - 1028 RSDL W/ IMPRVT
LA 90sqm
#17-A Camdng St NIA Subd
Minimum Bid Price P 706,250 00

UCPB - 1029 RSLD BLDG
LA 102sqm
364 P Rivera St Brgy Sangandaan
Minimum Bid Price P 1,602,000 00

UCPB - 1030 HOUSE & LOT
LA 281sqm
Bighani cor Flores de Mayo St
Minimum Bid Price P 2,762 500 00

UCPB - 1031 CONDO UNIT
FA 120 17sqm w/ PARKING
707 Jade Place Condo Visayas Ave
Minimum Bid Price P 2,863,000 00

UCPB - 1033 CONDO UNIT
FA 62 90sqm
Adelina 2 Condominium Columbia
Minimum Bid Price P 1,377,000 00

UCPB - 1034 HOUSE & LOT
LA 103sqm
Goodwill Home Ph 2 Bagabag Nov
Minimum Bid Price P 2,376 000 00

UCPB - 1036 2 DOOR APARTMNT
LA 155sqm
Malaygreen Village Bagbag Nov
Minimum Bid Price P 3,122,344 00

UCPB - 1037 RSDL UNIT
FA 63sqm
209 2nd flr Prince Jun Condo
Minimum Bid Price P 1,269 000 00

UCPB - 1038 RSDL LOT
LA 3 130sqm
G Meadows Ave Green Meadow
Minimum Bid Price P 45,883,000 00

UCPB - 1040 HOUSE & LOT
LA 400sqm
Maamo St Sikatuna Vil Diliman
Minimum Bid Price P 4,800 000 00

UCPB - 1041 TOWN HOUSE
FA 66sqm
Trafalgar Manor Esteban Abada St
Minimum Bid Price P 3 925 000 00

GREENHILLS SAN JUAN

UCPB - 1045 HOUSE & LOT
LA 926sqm
Madison & Polk St North Greenhills
Minimum Bid Price P 36,329 000 00

UCPB - 1046 CONDO UNIT
FA 160 sqm
One Beverly Place Condo Annapolis
Minimum Bid Price P 6 400 000 00

VALENZUELA CITY

UCPB - 1047 RSDL LOT
LA 264sqm w/ IMPRVT
700 Mango Grove Subd Coloong 2
Minimum Bid Price P 272,000 00

UCPB - 1048 RSDL LOT
LA 193sqm w/ IMPRVT
14 Lirio Tagaytay St Polo
Minimum Bid Price P 854,500 00

ANTIPOLO

UCPB - 1049 RSDL LOT
LA 834sqm
Selford St Town & Country Estates
Minimum Bid Price P 2,894 500 00

UCPB - 1050 HOUSE & LOT
LA 185sqm FA 104sqm
Cuesta Verde Exec Village
Minimum Bid Price P 1,082,000 00

UCPB - 1053 RSDL LOT
LA 1 161sqm
Town & Country Estates
Minimum Bid Price P 3,717,900 00

UCPB - 1054 A RSDL LOT
LA 392sqm
Cherry St Town & Country Estates
Minimum Bid Price P 1,058 400 00

UCPB 1056- RSDL LOT
LA 304sqm
Cottonwoods Heights
Minimum Bid Price P 981,020 00

UCPB 1057 - RSDL LOT
LA 190sqm
Hills of Masa Alta
Minimum Bid Price P 585,250 00

UCPB - 1061 RSDL LOT
LA 1 004sqm
Brgy Rd Brgy May - Iba Teresa
Minimum Bid Price P 1,470,500 00

CAINTA/ TAYTAY/ ANGONO

UCPB - 1062 RSDL LOT
LA 362sqm w/ IMPRVT
Noel Subd Brgy Dolores Taytay
Minimum Bid Price P 799,416 00

UCPB - 1063 HOUSE & LOT
LA 240sqm FA 208sqm
Williamburg St Richmond Subd
Minimum Bid Price P 1,701,000 00

UCPB - 1064 RSDL LOT
LA 408sqm
Village East III Darangan
Minimum Bid Price P 734,800 00

UCPB - 1066 RSDL LOT
LA 230 226sqm
Feeder Rd Bo Gulnang Bayan
Minimum Bid Price P 10 359 000 00

UCPB - 1067 RSDL LOT
LA 4 745sqm w/ IMPRVMNT
Condrado St Vista Verde Exec
Minimum Bid Price P 9,965,000 00

BULACAN

UCPB - 1068 RSDL LOT
LA 181sqm
Opel St Vitacor Vil Meycauayan
Minimum Bid Price P 2,720,000 00

UCPB - 1071 RSDL LOT
LA 206sqm
Ayuan St Subd Turo Bocaue
Minimum Bid Price P 453,200 00

UCPB - 1072 IND'S FACTORY
LA 22 311 46sqm FA VARIOUS
Northwest Line Bo Patubig
Minimum Bid Price P 34,666,000 00

UCPB - 1149 HOUSE & LOT
LA 209sqm
Avocado St Area F Sapang Palay
Minimum Bid Price P 360 000 00

CAVITE CITY

UCPB - 1073 CONDOTEL
FA 182 08sqm
Southwoods Villa Carmona
Minimum Bid Price P 4,507,092 00

UCPB - 1074 RESORT BLDG
LA 1,238sqm w/ POOL
Villa Ramirez Subd Tabon Kawit
Minimum Bid Price P 3,771,000 00

UCPB - 1077 COMML LOT
LA 4,990sqm
Macaria Business Cent, Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price P 38,242 350 00

UCPB - 1077 A COMML LOT
LA 3,324sqm
Macaria Business Cent, Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price P 25,428 600 00

UCPB - 1078 CONDOTEL/RESORT
FA 71sqm
Vista De Loro Heights Puerto Azul
Minimum Bid Price P 1 569,500 00

UCPB - 1080 INDSTL LOT
LA 7,079sqm
Bo Neog II Bacoor
Minimum Bid Price: P 8,926,500 00

UCPB - 1081 RESORT HOUSE
LA 240sqm
Punta Del Rio Resort & Country
Minimum Bid Price P 7 140,000 00

BIÑAN/ SAN PEDRO & STA ROSA

UCPB - 1086 HOUSE & LOT
LA 1 211sqm (2 storey)
Bo Pooc Sta Rosa
Minimum Bid Price P 2,903,701 00

UCPB - 1087 HOUSE & LOT
LA 370sqm FA 164sqm
Maharlika St United San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price P 2 430 000 00

TAGAYTAY CITY

UCPB - 1088 CONDO UNIT
FA 160 25sqm
#128 Leighton Garden Condo
Minimum Bid Price P 3 042 000 00

UCPB - 1089 VACANT LOT
LA 11 572sqm
Bo Maharlika East Tagaytay
Minimum Bid Price P 17,860,000 00

BATANGAS CITY

UCPB - 1105 POULTRY & PIGGERY
LA 37,117sqm w/ HOUSE
National Road Bo Tangob
Minimum Bid Price P 3,052,200 00

UCPB - 1109 HOUSE & LOT
LA 2,935sqm
Lod-lod Road, Purok 6 Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P 4 000 500 00

UCPB - 1109 HOUSE & LOT
LA 888sqm
Bo Rd Tilamba Taysan
Minimum Bid Price P 2,010,000 00

UCPB - 1110 COMML LOT
LA 1 034sqm
Kalipulako St Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P 27,660,000 00

UCPB - 1112 COMML LOT
LA 322sqm
Kalipulako St Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P 4,150,000 00

UCPB - 1114 COMML LOT
LA 11,632sqm W/ IMPRVT
Nat'l Rd Brgy Bugtong na Pulo
Minimum Bid Price P 25,398,000 00

UCPB - 1116 RESORT
LA 39 080sqm
Within Brgy Batanga Lemery
Minimum Bid Price P 17 925 000 00

UCPB - 1151 RSDL LOT
LA 5 561sqm w/ IMPRVMT
Sakura Exec Village Bo Marauoy
Minimum Bid Price P 30 800,000 00

QUEZON

UCPB - 1119 INDSL LOT
LA 8 477sqm
Bo Isabang Mun of Tayabas
Minimum Bid Price P 11 385,000 00

UCPB - 1121 HOUSE & LOT
LA 75sqm w/ WARE HOUSE
Enriquez St Poblacion Lucena
Minimum Bid Price P 1,705 500 00

UCPB - 1123 INDSL LOT
LA 1 168sqm W/ IMPRVT
Purok Matahimik Cotta Lucena
Minimum Bid Price P 3,322 594 00

UCPB - 1124 COMML LOT
LA 1 508 sqm
Nat'l Road Bo Iyam Lucena
Minimum Bid Price P 5,285 000 00

UCPB - 1125 RSDL LOT
LA 250sqm
San Isidro Subd Bo Gulang-gulang
Minimum Bid Price P 588,491 00

UCPB - 1127 RSDL LOT
LA 2 533sqm
CPG Ave East St. Tagbilaran
Minimum Bid Price P 1,480 000 00

UCPB - 1128 RSDL LOT
LA 2 273sqm
Teodoro Bantol St, Tagbilaran
Minimum Bid Price P 1 727,000 00

UCPB - 1151 RSDL LOT
LA 481sqm
Lucena-Dalahican Port Rd Dumsac
Minimum Bid Price P 2 317,500 00

UCPB - 1152 COMML LOT
LA 5 074sqm
Quezon Ave Brgy 6
Minimum Bid Price P 28,487,000 00

UCPB - 1153 COMML LOT
LA 3 706sqm
Purok Cotta Lucena
Minimum Bid Price P 5,569,200 00

UCPB - 1154 COMML LOT
LA 176sqm
Leon Guinto Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price P 4,181,400 00

UCPB - 1155 RSDL LOT
LA 180sqm
Bolivia St Batterliving Subd Isabang
Minimum Bid Price P 1 440,000 00

UCPB - 1156 AGRI-LOT
LA 36 408sqm
Provincial Rd Bo Pure San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price P 4 914,000 00

TARLAC CITY

UCPB 1131 - INDSL LOT
LA 4 3071sqm (w/ poultry house)
Bo San Agustin Concepcion
Minimum Bid Price P 6 217,200 00

UCPB 1132 - AGRO-INDSL LOT
LA 111 650sqm
Bo Sapang Maragul
Minimum Bid Price P 5 582,800 00

UCPB - 1160 RSDL LOT
LA 3,379sqm
Bo San Isidro Tarlac
Minimum Bid Price P 2,100,000 00

UCPB - 1161 AGRI-LOT
LA 43 509sqm
Brgy Baldoseo Mun of Sta Ignacia
Minimum Bid Price P 2 016,000 00

PAMPANGA CITY

UCPB 1133 - INDUSTRIAL LOT
LA 50 589sqm
Bo Mabiga Mabalacat
Minimum Bid Price P 7,216,097 00

UCPB - 1162 AGRO-INDTRL LOT
LA 72 152sqm
Brgy Sulipan Apalit, Pampanga
Minimum Bid Price P 10,074,000 00

SHOW MONEY: Php 25,000 CASH/MC PER PROPERTY • ALL PROPERTIES FOR SALE ARE ON AN "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" • PROPERTIES AND PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGES WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

AUCTION MANAGER
THE PROPERTY FORUM

TELEPHONE NOS.:
(02)534-9536 or (02)534-6954
(MON - SUN, 8:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.)

CALL CENTER:
(02)633-1988 to 90
(MON - SUN, 10:30 A.M. - 8:30 P.M.)

CELLPHONE NO.:
(0927)550-6401

UCPB

www.ucpb.com

E-mail: pr_info_tech@inquirer.com.ph

INFOTECH

Editor Leo Magno

Text us your feedback: Inquirer It name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Iligan teachers bag awards for IT education

By Erwin Oliva
Contributor

STA. FILOMENA, Iligan City—In this town five kilometers away from the city proper, Iligan City East High School used to be known as the "dumping ground" of students rejected by other high schools.

Last year, it produced two world-class teachers who've won accolades for the school, their sleepy hometown, and ultimately their country.

"I recalled, although it was quite painful and embarrassing, that parents came to me asking us to accept their children who were rejected by other schools," recalled Fely Yu, assistant schools division superintendent in Iligan City.

She recounted when the Iligan City East National High School had only seven teachers and a little building to call a school. That was 1985. Today, the school is home to two high school teachers—Lorna Tumampil and Sherlita Daguisonan—who both won Microsoft's first Philippine Innovative Teachers Leadership Awards, a national competition for technology-savvy teachers in the country.

Both teachers were sent to Singapore this year to compete in the regional competition involving countries in the Asia Pacific. Daguisonan eventually came home with the bacon, the first Filipino to win in Microsoft's new Asian Regional Innovative Teachers' Conference in Singapore. Daguisonan is scheduled to compete in Seattle come June this year.

In a simple awarding ceremony organized by the school, both teachers were awarded medals and a plaque. The school principal and their co-teachers however appeared more elated as they stressed how the school was able to produce tech-savvy teachers with meager resources.

The high school was a beneficiary of the PCs for Public High School program of the Department of Trade and Industry. It also received computers from the Department of Science and Technology early on.

In a speech during the awarding ceremony, Daguisonan was more sober as she dedicated her award to her fellow teachers.

"I feel that this award was not made for me as a woman but as a teacher," she began.

Encouraged to participate only at the last minute by her mentor Amy Buan (Intel Teach to the Future trainor), 42-year-old teacher Daguisonan was even surprised that she defeated more worthy opponents in the Philippines, and later from across the Asia Pacific in the regional finals in Singapore.

"I never dreamed of reaching the moon but I won a star," quipped this teacher, referring to her star-shaped plaque. "This reward is not mine but this is a message to the Iliganon teachers that we can be globally competitive. And all this should start in our classroom," she said.

Daguisonan developed a project called "Mathematics, power and fuel patrol," a result of her personal eight-year initiative to teach her students mathematics and energy conservation.

She organized students into "power patrols," requiring them to monitor power consumption in their respective homes. Through this activity, she was able to teach her students to discover ways to conserve energy, as they were encouraged to use all means necessary, including using technology, to gather and understand the information they culled.

In the process, she was also able to teach students the basic principles of mathematics—proportions, ratio, and percentage—while encouraging them to present their accomplishments in a Microsoft Power Point presentation.

"I'm not even a math teacher. I have a major in Chemistry. I began teaching mathematics only five months ago, or the same time I joined the contest. So when I joined the contest, I felt like a beginner trying to understand math. So it was also logical for me to choose an interesting activity for students that could arouse their interest as well as mine," she said.

She revealed that she drew inspiration from an idea presented by the Department of Energy during a regional science camp in Cotabato City. The agency had this "power patrol" idea for elementary students but she chose to apply it in her high school, she said.

"Several schools tried out the idea but after two years, most teachers lost interest in the agency's project except me," she recounted.

She added that she gave her students incentives, in the form of school supplies, to further motivate them. "I drew from my own pocket to buy those school supplies because it was my own initiative and not by the school."

Daguisonan is not a newbie in the use of computer technology for instruction. She was among those granted a two-month scholarship program in Malaysia back in 2001. There she was asked to courseware.

Having won the first national and the regional Innovative Teachers' Conference by Microsoft, she has recently felt all fired up with excitement, as she revealed plans to also start coaching her fellow teachers to join the next national contest.

"I'm now trying to double my efforts since I also want to encourage other teachers to join this contest," she said. "If not for the support of other teachers, I won't be here."

Asked for what advice she could give other teachers after winning the regional finals, she answered: "Love your work. If you do, then commitment and dedication will follow."

Known as the "industrial center in the South," Iligan City is now home to various industries including steel, flour, coconut oil, cement, and, of course, power. There are also a few patches of coconut farms in this city that is also the hometown of our President Macapagal-Arroyo.

To the teachers of Iligan City East National High School, however, the city is now also home to the country's most innovative teachers.

Local HP office moves on after Fiorina ouster

By Erwin Oliva
Contributor

FIORINA: Couldn't agree with board regarding HP's strategy after the Compaq acquisition. In the Philippines, however, HP says they "will continue with our current course and strategy."

THE PHILIPPINE subsidiary of Hewlett Packard said it will continue with its "current course and strategy" despite the departure of chief executive officer and chair Carleton S. Fiorina.

Fiorina stepped down as chair and chief executive officer six years after she joined the company.

"Despite her departure, HP will continue with our current course and strategy," said HP Philippines managing director Nilo Cruz in an e-mail interview with Infotech. "Our main focus is, and has always been, to deliver the products and services that will meet our customers' needs. We continue to show significant growths across all business units since the merger (with Compaq), and we aim to further extend our market leadership with key growth initiatives."

Cruz said HP Philippines will continue to communicate the same message to local customers that it remains an innovative, visionary and growing company that customers can rely on.

"HP Philippines recognizes the significant contributions of Carly Fiorina to reinvent and establish Hewlett Packard as one of the most recognized and trusted brands in the world," Cruz added. "She has become a formidable foundation and a respected symbol of HP who has successfully taken the company to market dimensions other people would never have thought possible. She is a very strong woman and we wish her good luck in her future endeavors."

In a statement, Fiorina admitted that her decision to leave the company was due to differences with the company's board of directors on how to execute HP's strategy.

Fiorina was the force behind the merger of the company with fellow computer manufacturer Compaq. But industry analysts have called the merger a lemon, as the company's stocks and business did not grow as much as it was expected.

"I respect their decision," she added, noting that HP is a great company and wished all HP employees more success.

UCPB PROPERTY MARKET

10% DOWNPAYMENT 11% INTEREST 10 YEARS TO PAY

VALENTINE AUCTION

FEBRUARY 26, 2005 • 9:00 A.M.
UCPB BLDG., MAKATI AVE., MAKATI CITY

76.57sqm	P 2,439,520.20
83.34sqm	P 2,707,716.60
95.83sqm	P 3,053,143.80
103.27sqm	P 3,364,536.60
111.95sqm	P 3,828,690.00
112.44sqm	P 3,855,567.60
13.37sqm	P 4,081,320.00
137.66sqm	P 4,608,856.80
142.18sqm	P 5,398,218.00
157.44sqm	P 6,018,120.00
159.06sqm	P 5,711,844.60
167.17sqm	P 5,951,232.00

WHOLE FLOOR

924.45sqm	P 34,278,606.00
924.46sqm	P 32,614,948.80
924.72sqm	P 34,288,617.60

HALF FLOOR

406.28sqm	P 16,564,035.60
409.94sqm	P 16,713,253.80

ATLANTA CENTER
Annapolis, Greenhills, San Juan

COMMERCIAL UNITS

17.40sqm	P 454,053.00
21.00sqm	P 571,200.00
22.25sqm	P 605,200.00
26.85sqm	P 730,320.00
32.56sqm	P 885,632.00
34.29sqm	P 894,797.00
45.63sqm	P 1,132,536.00
46.60sqm	P 1,156,612.00
58.10sqm	P 1,501,304.00
103.48sqm	P 2,568,373.00

RESIDENTIAL UNITS

36.36sqm	P 1,137,340.00	66.51sqm	P 2,038,919.00
36.54sqm	P 1,249,435.00	74.40sqm	P 2,105,892.00
43.20sqm	P 1,288,872.00	75.15sqm	P 2,235,712.00
62.63sqm	P 2,038,919.00	98.43sqm	P 3,053,790.00
65.00sqm	P 2,033,200.00	107.05sqm	P 2,865,996.00

PALM TOWERS
St. Paul St. San Antonio Village, Makati City

787sqm	P 2,494,341.83	1,387sqm	P 4,396,000.16
870sqm	P 2,757,404.57	1,567sqm	P 4,966,497.65
1,056sqm	P 3,346,918.65	1,662sqm	P 5,267,593.56
1,133sqm	P 3,590,964.80	1,830sqm	P 5,800,057.89
1,245sqm	P 3,945,941.02	2,012sqm	P 6,376,894.24

MOUNT MALARAYAT
RESIDENTIAL ESTATES
LIPA, BATANGAS

LAS PIÑAS CITY

UCPB - 1001 COMML LOT
L.A. 1,932sqm
Brgy. Zapote Las Pinas City
Minimum Bid Price P 12,318,500 00

UCPB - 1002 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 280sqm F.A. 303 12sqm
Potsapis Road Pilar Village
Minimum Bid Price P 2,456,500 00

UCPB - 1003 CONDO UNIT
F.A. 40.48sqm
Coastal Plaza Condo
Minimum Bid Price P 488,000 00

CALOOCAN CITY

UCPB - 1005 RSDL LOT
L.A. 240sqm
Coastal St. Bruntonville Subd
Minimum Bid Price P 387,000 00

UCPB - 1006 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 300sqm F.A. 174sqm
Vista Verde North Ph. I-F
Minimum Bid Price. P 1,044,000 00

MANILA

UCPB - 1007 COMML LOT
L.A. 832.7sqm
No 2244 Taft Avenue, Malate
Minimum Bid Price P 26,651,300 00

MAKATI CITY

UCPB - 1011 RSDL LOT W/ OLD HOUSE
L.A. 740sqm
19 Paseo De Roxas Ext. Bel - Air
Minimum Bid Price P 23,568,500 00

MANDALUYONG CITY

UCPB - 1015 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 312sqm w/ 2 STOREY
No. 274 Sta. Lucia St. Plainview
Minimum Bid Price P 4,635,000 00

UCPB - 1017 CONDO UNIT
F.A. 140.9sqm
Court Felicidad Wack-wack Rd.
Minimum Bid Price P 4,350,000 00

MARIKINA

UCPB - 1018 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 829sqm
Town River I Bo. Nanagka
Minimum Bid Price P 5,200,000.00

PASAY CITY

UCPB - 1019 PENTHOUSE
F.A. 200sqm
Unit 1502 15th Floor Marbella 1,
Minimum Bid Price P 4,964,000 00

PARAÑAQUE CITY

UCPB - 1021 CONDO UNIT
F.A. 144.7sqm w/ PARKING
907 9th flr. Chateau de Baie Condo.
Minimum Bid Price P 3,421,250 00

UCPB - 1022 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 417sqm. F.A. 877.50sqm
Belisaida St. Multinational Village
Minimum Bid Price P 6,585,000 00

UCPB - 1023 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 563sqm
Jose Abad Santos Bayview Village
Minimum Bid Price P 6,774,500 00

UCPB - 1024 RSDL LOT
L.A. 99sqm w/ IMPRVT
L. Gabriel Street
Minimum Bid Price P 1,575,000.00

PASIG CITY

UCPB - 1025 RSDL LOT
L.A. 224sqm
Bagong Ahyo St. Rosario 4 Subd.
Minimum Bid Price P 760,000 00

UCPB - 1026 A CONDO UNIT
F.A. 224.14sqm
Park Chateau, Garnet & Sapphire
Minimum Bid Price P 5,355,000 00

QUEZON CITY

UCPB - 1147 TOWN HOUSE
L.A. 341.2sqm
10th St. New Manila
Minimum Bid Price P 10,161,000 00

UCPB - 1026 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 536sqm
44 Zaragosa St. Araneta Village
Minimum Bid Price P 6,961,500 00

UCPB - 1028 RSDL W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 99sqm
#17-A Camiling St. NIA Subd
Minimum Bid Price P 766,250 00

UCPB - 1029 RSLD BLDG
L.A. 102sqm
364 P. Rivera St. Brgy. Sangandaan
Minimum Bid Price P 1,602,000 00

UCPB - 1030 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 281sqm
Bighani cor Flores de Mayo St.
Minimum Bid Price P 2,782,500 00

UCPB - 1031 CONDO UNIT
F.A. 120.17sqm w/ PARKING
707 Jade Place Condo, Visayas Ave.
Minimum Bid Price P 2,853,000 00

UCPB - 1033 CONDO UNIT
F.A. 62.90sqm
Adelina 2 Condominium Columbia
Minimum Bid Price. P 1,377,000 00

UCPB - 1034 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 103sqm
Goodwill Home Ph 2 Bagabag Nov
Minimum Bid Price P 2,376,000 00

UCPB - 1036 2 DOOR APARTMNT
L.A. 165sqm
Metrogreen Village, Bagbag Nov
Minimum Bid Price P 1,122,344 00

UCPB - 1037 RSDL UNIT
F.A. 53sqm
209 2nd flr. Prince Jun Condo
Minimum Bid Price P 1,269,000 00

UCPB - 1038 RSDL LOT
L.A. 3.130sqm
G. Meadows Ave. Green Meadow
Minimum Bid Price P 45,883,000 00

UCPB - 1040 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 400sqm
Moarno St. Sikatuna Vill. Diliman
Minimum Bid Price P 4,800,000 00

UCPB - 1041 TOWN HOUSE
F.A. 60sqm
Trafalgar Manor Esteban Abada St.
Minimum Bid Price P 3,925,000 00

GREENHILLS SAN JUAN

UCPB - 1045 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 926sqm
Madison & Polk St. North Greenhills
Minimum Bid Price P 35,329,000 00

UCPB - 1048 CONDO UNIT
F.A. 180 sqm
One Beverly Place Condo Annapolis
Minimum Bid Price P 6,400,000 00

VALENZUELA CITY

UCPB - 1047 RSDL LOT
L.A. 264sqm w/ IMPRVT
700 Mango Grove Subd. Coloong 2
Minimum Bid Price P 272,000 00

UCPB - 1048 RSDL LOT
L.A. 193sqm w/ IMPRVT
14 Little Tagaytay St. Polo
Minimum Bid Price P 654,500 00

ANTIPOLO

UCPB - 1049 RSDL LOT
L.A. 834sqm
Sanford St. Town & Country Estates
Minimum Bid Price. P 2,504,500 00

UCPB - 1050 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 185sqm F.A. 184sqm
Cuesta Verde Exec. Village
Minimum Bid Price. P 1,062,000 00

UCPB - 1053 RSDL LOT
L.A. 1,161sqm
Town & Country Estates
Minimum Bid Price P 3,717,900 00

UCPB - 1054 A RSDL LOT
L.A. 302sqm
Cherry St. Town & Country Estates
Minimum Bid Price P 1,058,400 00

UCPB 1056- RSDL LOT
L.A. 304sqm
Cottonwoods Heights
Minimum Bid Price P 981,920 00

UCPB 1057 - RSDL LOT
L.A. 100sqm
Hills of Maia Alta
Minimum Bid Price P 585,250.00

UCPB - 1061 RSDL LOT
L.A. 1,004sqm
Brgy. Rd. Brgy. May - Iba Teresa
Minimum Bid Price P 1,470,500 00

CAINTA/ TAYTAY/ ANGONO

UCPB - 1062 RSDL LOT
L.A. 382sqm w/ IMPRVT
Noel Subd. Brgy. Dolores Taytay
Minimum Bid Price P 790,416 00

UCPB - 1063 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 240sqm. F.A. 208sqm
Williamburg St. Richmond Subd.
Minimum Bid Price P 1,701,000 00

UCPB - 1064 RSDL LOT
L.A. 408sqm
Village East III Darangan
Minimum Bid Price P 734,800.00

UCPB - 1066 RSDL LOT
L.A. 230.226sqm
Feeder Rd. Bo. Gulnang Bayan
Minimum Bid Price P 10,359,000 00

UCPB - 1067 RSDL LOT
L.A. 4,745sqm w/ IMPRVMNT
Condrado St. Vista Verde Exec.
Minimum Bid Price P 9,965,000 00

BULACAN

UCPB - 1068 RSDL LOT
L.A. 181sqm
Opel St. Villacor Vill. Meycauayan
Minimum Bid Price P 2,720,000 00

UCPB - 1071 RSDL LOT
L.A. 206sqm
Ayuna St. Subd Turo Bocaue
Minimum Bid Price P 453,200 00

UCPB - 1072 IND'S FACTORY
L.A. 22,311.46sqm F.A. VARIOUS
Northwest Line Bo. Patubig
Minimum Bid Price. P 34,666,000.00

UCPB - 1149 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 200sqm
Avocado St. Area F Sapang Palay
Minimum Bid Price P 360,000 00

CAVITE CITY

UCPB - 1073 CONDOTEL
F.A. 102.88sqm
Southwoods Villa, Carmona
Minimum Bid Price P 4,507,992 00

UCPB - 1074 RESORT BLDG
L.A. 1,238sqm w/ POOL
Villa Ramirez Subd. Tabon Kawit
Minimum Bid Price P 3,771,000 00

UCPB - 1077 COMML LOT
L.A. 4,000sqm
Macaria Business Cent. Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price P 38,242,350.00

UCPB - 1077 A COMML LOT
L.A. 3,324sqm
Macaria Business Cent. Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price P 25,428,600 00

UCPB - 1078 CONDOTEL/RESORT
F.A. 71sqm
Vista De Loro Heights Puerto Azul
Minimum Bid Price P 1,589,500 00

UCPB - 1080 INDSTL LOT
L.A. 7,079sqm
Bo. Niog II, Bacoor
Minimum Bid Price. P 5,926,500 00

UCPB - 1081 RESORT HOUSE
L.A. 240sqm
Punta Del Rio Resort & Country
Minimum Bid Price P 7,140,000 00

BIÑAN/ SAN PEDRO & STA ROSA

UCPB - 1086 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 1,211sqm (2-storey)
Bo. Pooc Sta. Rosa
Minimum Bid Price P 2,903,701 00

UCPB - 1087 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 370sqm. F.A. 184sqm
Maharlika St. United San Pedro
Minimum Bid Price P 2,430,000 00

TAGAYTAY CITY

UCPB - 1088 CONDO UNIT
F.A. 160.25sqm
#128 Leighton Garden Condo
Minimum Bid Price P 3,042,000 00

UCPB - 1089 VACANT LOT
L.A. 11,572sqm
Bo. Maharlika East. Tagaytay
Minimum Bid Price P 17,860,000 00

BATANGAS CITY

UCPB - 1105 POULTRY & PIGGERY
L.A. 37,117sqm w/ HOUSE
National Road Bo. Tangob
Minimum Bid Price P 3,852,200 00

UCPB - 1108 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 2,935sqm
Lod-lod Road, Purok 6 Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P 4,000,500 00

UCPB - 1109 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 865sqm
Bo. Rd. Tilambo, Taysan
Minimum Bid Price P 2,010,000.00

UCPB - 1110 COMML LOT
L.A. 1,034sqm
Kalputoko St. Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P 27,860,000 00

UCPB - 1112 COMML LOT
L.A. 322sqm
Kalputoko St. Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P 4,160,000.00

UCPB - 1114 COMML LOT
L.A. 11,632sqm W/ IMPRVT
Nat'l Rd. Brgy. Bugtong na Pulo
Minimum Bid Price P 25,308,000 00

UCPB - 1115 RESORT
L.A. 39,980sqm
Within Brgy. Barangay Lemery
Minimum Bid Price P 17,925,000.00

UCPB - 1151 RSDL LOT
L.A. 5,561sqm w/ IMPRVMT
Sakura Exec. Village Bo. Marauoy
Minimum Bid Price P 30,800,000 00

QUEZON

UCPB - 1119 INDSL LOT
L.A. 8,477sqm
Bo. Isabang Mun. of Tayabas
Minimum Bid Price. P 11,385,000.00

UCPB - 1121 HOUSE & LOT
L.A. 75sqm w/ WARE HOUSE
Enriquez St. Poblacion Lucena
Minimum Bid Price P 1,705,500 00

UCPB - 1123 INDSL LOT
L.A. 1,168sqm W/ IMPRVT
Purok Matahenak Cotta Lucena
Minimum Bid Price P 3,322,594 00

UCPB - 1124 COMML LOT
L.A. 1,508 sqm
Nat'l Road Bo. Iyam Lucena
Minimum Bid Price P 5,285,000 00

UCPB - 1125 RSDL LOT
L.A. 250sqm
San Isidro Subd. Bo. Gulang-gulang
Minimum Bid Price P 588,491 00

UCPB - 1127 RSDL LOT
L.A. 2,633sqm
CPG Ave. East St. Tagbilaran
Minimum Bid Price P 1,480,000 00

UCPB - 1128 RSDL LOT
L.A. 2,273sqm
Teodoro Baniol St. Tagbilaran
Minimum Bid Price P 1,727,000.00

UCPB - 1151 RSDL LOT
L.A. 481sqm
Lucena Dalahican Port Rd. Dumaao
Minimum Bid Price P 2,317,500 00

UCPB - 1152 COMML LOT
L.A. 5,074sqm
Quezon Ave. Brgy. 6
Minimum Bid Price P 20,487,000 00

UCPB - 1153 COMML LOT
L.A. 3,706sqm
Purok Cotta Lucena
Minimum Bid Price P 5,569,200 00

UCPB - 1154 COMML LOT
L.A. 178sqm
Leon Guinto Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price P 4,181,400.00

UCPB - 1155 RSDL LOT
L.A. 180sqm
Bolaya St. Bettertving Subd Isabang
Minimum Bid Price. P 1,440,000 00

UCPB - 1156 AGRI-LOT
L.A. 36,400sqm
Provincial Rd Bo. Pure San Antonio
Minimum Bid Price P 4,914,000 00

TARLAC CITY

UCPB 1131 - INDSL LOT
L.A. 4,387sqm (w/ poultry house)
Bo. San Agustin Concepcion
Minimum Bid Price P 6,217,200 00

UCPB 1132 - AGRO-INDSL LOT
L.A. 111,656sqm
Bo. Sapang Maragul
Minimum Bid Price P 5,582,800 00

UCPB - 1156 RSDL LOT
L.A. 3,379sqm
Bo. San Isidro, Tarlac
Minimum Bid Price P 2,100,000 00

UCPB - 1161 AGRI-LOT
L.A. 43,808sqm
Brgy. Baldoso Mun of Sta. Ignacia
Minimum Bid Price P 2,016,000 00

PAMPANGA CITY

UCPB 1133 - INDUSTRIAL LOT
LA 56,589sqm
Bo. Mabiga Mabalacat
Minimum Bid Price P 7,215,097 00

UCPB - 1162 AGRO-INDTRL LOT
L.A. 72,152sqm
Brgy. Sulipan Apalit, Pampanga
Minimum Bid Price P 10,074,000 00

SHOW MONEY: Php 25,000 CASH/MC PER PROPERTY • ALL PROPERTIES FOR SALE ARE ON AN "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" • PROPERTIES AND PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGES WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

AUCTION MANAGER
THE PROPERTY FORUM

TELEPHONE NOS.:
(02)534-9536 to (02)534-6954
(MON - SUN, 8:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.)

CALL CENTER:
(02)633-1988 to 90
(MON - SUN, 10:30 A.M. - 8:30 P.M.)

CELLPHONE NO.:
(0927)550-6401

UCPB

www.ucpb.com

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2005

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 897-8425 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 897-8425
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5224406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

RATES
P245 per column centimeter
P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays 12:00 noon Day before publication
Sundays 12:00 noon every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

DENTAL

TOOTH IMPLANT CLINIC
772-2014 / 8504769 Dr. Arml

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Skin Clinic Rapid
Tx Comp Lab Tel. 8175071
Matrinco 2178 P. Tamo Makati

PERSONAL

HEALTH/FITNESS

SALON BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT SEMINAR
T9131603 / 09209238763

TRAINING/WORKSHOP
FACIAL SKINCARE
(BEAUTY THERAPY)
T9131603 / 09209238763

MASSAGE

ADAM'S APPLE 3605724

AKHIN Bgo Cbu Mla 8347357

Alternative Therapy 8327363

ASK BELL MALE MASSEUR
(0921)5364794

MASSAGE 8547144 BILLY

MR. UNIVERSE SPA
1157 Quezon Ave. 410-1259

★ Mr BODY PHYSIQUE ★
11A Kamias QC 4350978

RELAXING MASSAGE 8978214

THAI Msge Llc 0921-7569278

REFLEXOLOGY

Edgar Reflex 7571013

★★Feels Good 4127758★★

I-spa Ctland 9 Mkt 8160151

•Wizard Massage 4213197•

CONSTRUCTION/ DESIGN

TWNHSE-OFFICE BLDG
Desgn/Renow/Build 0921-3927206

HOUSEHOLD

EFFICIENT MAIDS
PROV'L. & CITY ALL AROUND MAIDS
SCREENED W/REF. NBI POL. CLEAR.
873-7055•873-5062•873-7057

Good Maids Yaya 912-4701 A'A
Maids Yaya Cook 853-3505

Good Orient Maids 4358404

NEWLY ARRIVED PROVINCIAL
MAIDS MIDWIFE NURSE YAYA
COOK LABA H'GIRL/BOY DRIVER
SCREENED W/CLEAR. CALL "JOY"
872-0265•8735271•853-3504

CARPET CLEANING

VINYL MARBLE & OTHER
SRVCS 9308884 9302987

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

A'A MAIDS & YAYA 4386920

ANGEL MAIDS 4213253

Best Driver Maid 4547542

Best Maid , Yaya,Driver 4384809

DIRECT MAIDS,YAYA, COOK 7289060

GOOD MAIDS YAYAS W/ NBI
#8967402 / 0920-9232187

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-2971

NEED MAIDS 0915-5544777

BEST MAIDS 8294261

Trusted Maids Yaya Driver 7572089

Yaya, Cook H'maid 8957507

LIPAT BAHAY

•731-6833•LIPAT

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

P1200/TRIP 742-14-57

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

CAVITE

RSG GUEVENTHOMES
as low as P750T
30% D/P
Payable in easy installment
70% Balance thru In-House convertible to Pag-IBIG Housing Loan
Marketing Sales Dte.
531-0395 * 531-1384
(0920) RSG HOME
(0920) 910 0000
Toll Free: 1-800-10 RSGHOME
www.guevent.com
other sites available
Calata, Baguio, QC
BACOOR only 10 mins from Baclaran!
as low as P4,100/mo*
* Pag-IBIG Housing Loan

COMMERCIAL

MARIKINA

Thse 3BR4TB front C&P Mall
Marikina Hts 934-6879

COMML/RESDL

QUEZON CITY

•Kamias No. 11 K-I cor K-6th•
9210255 9219967 9209822

RIZAL

FOREST HILLS..PRIME...I Beside of Golf Clubhouse, View Hole #18, 12 & 13 Nicklaus Course CALL NOW: 5350017

HOUSE & LOT

LAS PINAS

READY FOR OCCUPANCY
LAS PINAS or BACOOR
Only P5,000 to reserve
No loan requirement
• 873-59-49 • 874-0487 •

MAKATI

MAKATI VILLAGES BEST BUY
Investment 0918-9392979

MANDALUYONG

★West GH 2Sty Hse 534-6610

MARIKINA

Bnew 4BR 3TB 2.8M 9487112

PARANAQUE

Merville House & Lot P7M Call
0927-5236359

Sucat 180m² 2stry 4BR 5TB Rooftop 2Grg Maids Rm Call 0920-9202839/843-1712

QUEZON CITY

NR ARANETA CENTER/Makro (1)two stry hse, 2 bungalow LA302m² 12M 0917-7499447

W. PLAINS SUBD. 597m² 5BR 5TB 4CG DB only 6330164

W.Plains 600m² 5BR 15M
4121825 / 09177914366

RIZAL

Rush 3br 2t&b 3Cp Lot 479m² Hse 160m² Villa Cecilia Antipolo P4M Negotiable 6467796 6469538 Myra

PROVINCIAL

For Rent w/ option To Buy within1 year
Behind Paras Beach Resort
T-(088)387-9159 / 387-9517

BATANGAS

2stry w/ s.pool & warehouse 1,200 sqm 0915-4231999

LAGUNA

BINAN P400T/mo 5201792

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.1M C5 Nr The Fort
10T/mo. or 4Yrs. No Int. or
10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 2-4BR
15min Fr Mkti 0917-8313226

MAKATI

EXEC. RESDL CONDO
P3.5M 4BR 181m² w/Parking
Near Makati, Resort Type
LITO: 0918-5251365 • 873-6426

LOOKING FOR HIGH END PROPERTIES?
Sale / Rent 7181154
Aldrin 0918-9392979

MAKATI CONDO RENT/SALE
410-8395 / 0919-8504468

Nr Rockwell Penthse 2sty
P9M neg 3BR 141m² 4121825

RENT 2 OWN Condo Resort!
2BR P12T Nr Mkti RFO 09228086855

MANILA

Malate Condo Rush @ 3.5M
New-BR-Pkg 0917-7441292

NR LA SALLE TAFT BnewTwnhse/ 4sty/3br/3tb/mdsrm/grge/deck P3.616M up 8903461

Sta Mesa CONDO 110K DP Move-In 2br Nr SM Ctr Point 35K/mo. or As Low As 15K/mo. • Ivy 0918-9384927

MANDALUYONG

CityLand Shaw 1BR 634-1212

★Var. Thses/Condo 534-6610

PASIG

• AIC GOLD TOWER •
2BR P5M 09163725766

Class A bes. Makro Cainta
tescorealty.com 09275337250

Near Podium Malayan Plaza
Terms RFO 1-2br 634-1212

QUEZON CITY

Alpha Vlc. 4br 3tb 2car P7M 6341212

CUBAO Condo 1.5M 9126976

EASTWOOD 2BR 3BA + Mds Rm + Lndry Rm 77m² Panoramic River View 24Hr Sec 4.7M neg 09184845443

TEACHER'S VILL QC
Brandnew Twnhse 6M
9132701 / 09189356366

OTHER AREAS

CANYON WOODS
Ridge Condo w/Free Club Membership 2-3BR @ P3M-P7M Divine Lot 5Yrs to Pay, 0% Int. 0918-9377715; 531-2805

www.myhomeph.com

SAN JUAN

CONDO UNIT FOR SALE 2.4M Quadrillion Mansion cor. M. Paterno St. & N. Domingo San Juan. Contact Reymaly CP#0917-4327579

APARTMENT

MANDALUYONG

RUSH 2 Units U&D Nr Boni 2M Neg 09184293972

LOT

QUEZON CITY

Exclusive Res'l Lot
nr Ateneo/UP/Miriam
204m²@P8 5th 09189235216

LOT

QUEZON CITY

KATIPUNAN EXT 3648m²
P9.5T Commercial Maid Rd
Ideal for gas station/School
Convenience Store near UP
Ateneo Call 0918-9235216

KATIPUNAN EXT COM'L
beside future Kenny Rogers
1,100m² & 451m²@P9.5th/m²
454-5667 / 0918-9235216

LOYOLA GRAND VILLAS
choice lots w/ view, Sweden
Street available 426-5650,
929-1832 • 0919-8212235

PROVINCIAL

★100% TAGAYTAY ★
240m²-up 3,568m² 134T D/P 6 Mos to pay 6T
Mo. nr Tnal Vista 6609372

BATANGAS

2has San Juan P65m² (7)Lot 500m²
P750m² Sto Tomas 0918-4204333

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL

QUEZON CITY

PRIME COMMERCIAL
East Avenue
Vacant Lots Beside
SSS HO
Three (3) Sites
400; 316 & 400 sqm.
Entrance Frontage 21M
Rent: P250; 200 &
100/sqm/mo
Store Space GFA
118.87 sqm;
Parking Slot 37 sqm
Rent P65,000/Monthly
Ideal Retail/Commercial
ZITRO REAL ESTATE
Tels: 818-2751/751-5472
Cell: 0919-6745430

HOUSE

PARANAQUE

4BR 3TB NR SM BCTAN 19T 2 GARAGE BONG 09178571049

QUEZON CITY

FILINVEST 3BR2TB MDSRM GRGE 15T/MO TEL9318266

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

MAKATI AVE F/F 35m² P11T no dues, nr Jupiter 4578041

MAKATI CONDO/OFC
RENT/SALE 09189392979

MANDALUYONG

Near MRT Shaw 2br 2t&b w/Parking 13T 0917-8867494

QUEZON CITY

3BR 3T&B P16,500 1car grge good location 700-9383

APARTMENT

QUEZON CITY

CUBAO 2stry 2BR 1T&B
P7T 439-8519 Marivic

ROOM & BOARD

LADIES SN JUAN 4161045

Proj4 QC Rooms 9139635

BUSINESS RENTAL

AYALA AVE 8181696/7586

MAKATI nr BUENDIA
PTAMO 62/129/148/185/M' 1st class 8903461 loc 34 or 19 o/c hrs

LOAN & MORTGAGE

BUSINES DOCTOR 524-3197

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

Francisco Gold Bldg I 73.60m² 12T All-In 4121825; 09177914366

MALATE MLA 526-8048/49

Ortigas Ctr 70 145 300 1200m²
412-1825 / 0917-7914366

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

COMMERCIAL/ RESIDENTIAL

260m² w/5 Offices 5487 Boyle St, Palanan Mkti • 804-0067

IN NEED OF PROPERTY?
For Rent or For Sale
H&L/Lot/Condo/Ofc/W'hse
Pacific Plaza FORT/AYALA
Essensa/Regent/Rockwell
Paseo Park View/Tower
ShangGrand Twr/Serendra
Columns/Prince Plaz2/U1514
Nice Tagaytay Highlands
Ayala/Britany/Megaworld
Pre-Selling or R.F.O.
BEST BUY or INVESTMENT!
Let us HELP YOU find it
ALDRIN G.0918-9392979
Property Provider Group
Tel#7181154/REBL#17853

HOUSE & LOT

FORBES/DASMA/URDA
Furn / Unfurn 0918-9392979

LOT FOR SALE/RENT

NAGA CITY
COMMERCIAL LOT AREA-1105 SQM FRONTAGE 29.18M NAT'L HWAY BESIDE ROYAL ANN HOTEL, CONCEPCION GRANDE, NAGA CITY. CAN BE ACQUIRED BY PORTION.

AREA 1940SQM FRONTAGE 28M W /BLDG&MPVTS. CONCEPCION PEQUEÑA, NAGA CITY BESIDE S.S.S. CALL (054)8117313 09163857759 Lito

CONDO/TWNHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

EASTWOOD CITY 1BR-3BR READY TO OCCUPY RENT/ SALE CATHY 0920-9207828

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HONDA

HONDA CIVIC 1997 8954122

HONDA CRV 2000 A/T 1st Owner Green Casa Maintained Very Good Cond. P600,000 0 9 1 7 8 9 8 6 1 0 1

ISUZU

• 05 XUV 0%dp 09173908413

MITSUBISHI

'05 Adventure GLX Diesel BNew 135T D/P Call 0917-8458587

'05 Adventure GLX Diesel BNew 135T D/P Call 0917-6206816

LANCER MX LTD 2000 Model Looks Like '01 Model Dec '00 Purchased Fully Loaded with Leather Seats, Side Grills, 15" Mag Wheels, 6 Speaker, In-Dash, CD Well Maintained, White Color, Complete with Papers, P340K Negotiable. Call 0917-5320033

SPACE GEAR '98 P485T Local 09178445634 / 7272740 L-307

TOYOTA

• 05 Vios 0%dp 09173908413

95FX DUAL AIRCON 5K GAS P170K 0918-3382948

COROLLA GLI '00 P348T FLD 09178445634 / 7272740 L-307

RAV4 '98M/T 5dr 94tkm 415K • 0918-4254939 • 935-9875

OTHER CAR BRANDS

Delica Serena Space Gear Vanette Hi-Lito Town Ace Terms Trade In 7127539

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

CarsVans CoasterBus 422-9296

CARS/VANS/BRIDAL 8969956

Cheap Van Rental 9330311

L300 • Urvan • Starex • MB100 • Vios • Altis 7268388

STAREX'05 MB100 9483535

P800/L3 9136710 / 4333682

RENT A VAN
0917-5444721 / 6424405

Toyco U Drive w/ Driver All Kinds Cars Van Revo Dly. Wk.Mo. Rental 8023021-22

ABC RENT A CAR
HI-ACE • STAREX
L300 • CRV • REVO
HONDA • VIOS • ALTIS • LYNX • CRLA
MLA : 536-8822 • 303-9789
Q.C.: 426-2278 • 426-4084

LAKBAY 951-9481

HEAVY EQUIPMENT/ TRANSPORT

ELF•4WARD•10WHEELERS•
•VAN 9319745/0917-4142597

CAR LOAN

1.5% Car Loan 5344441

1.5% Car Loan 5344441

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

1.5% CARLOAN 788-0361

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

1.5% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

•1HR Fast Car Loan 7125202•

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

2% w/o taking car 7880183-84

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/out taking car 5315577

2% w/out taking car 6567685

2% w/out taking car 5315577

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BILLIARDS

26T New Compt Sr Impld 7767507

PETS

5M / 5F Dalmatian champline w/ papers 09273995937 Allan

Dog Trainer 0919-2050952

GOLDEN RET. PUPS 4225231

•NEO MASTIF • SHITZU • ROTT • AKITA • DANE • LAB • 9287955

PHIL . DOG SCHOOL
TRAINS w/K9 PSYCHOLOGY
Full Guarantee. T721-37-36

WANTED TO BUY

'PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE'
LOW 5% INTEREST
BUY • SELL • PAWN
SWISS WATCHES
AGENCIA de MAKATI-4567017
SECONDO AYALA CENTER-8940282
OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY

A NAME YOU CAN TRUST!
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
& Other Swiss Watches
DIAMONDS / JEWELRY
Hi-Appraisal/Fast Cash
Repair/Polish Any Watch
T#804-0484 • 834-2886

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5646593 5897041
5633742 0917-8473744

BUYING ROLEX
Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
0917-8142309 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

MISCELLANEOUS

SHOES New Johnstone & Murphy All Leather 8-1/2D 9240591

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

FREE ANTI DIABETIC 8671937

PERSONAL

MY LIFE HAS BEEN NOTHING BUT BEAUTIFUL SINCE YOU BECAME A PART OF IT I LOVE YOU JONATHAN, MORE THAN YOU OR ANYONE IN THIS WORLD COULD EVER IMAGINE.
-KIN-

Rens,
Lucky you.
Even luckier me.
I love you so much!
– Lovey 19

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

earnextranow.com code: stb2004
8531008 09178901851

L88EDC has TRANSFORMED & CHANGED the lives of many professionals into GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURS.
www.L88edc.com

RTW Consign 09167940002

UNDP

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

Project ID 00037987 Philippine Efficient Lighting Market Transformation

The Development Support Services Center (DSSC) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites national consultants to apply for eligibility and to bid for the project "UNDP-GEF-DOE Project ID 00037987 Philippine Efficient Lighting Market Transformation Project (PELMATP)".

The Philippine Efficient Lighting Market Transformation Project (PELMATP) is intended to address the barriers to widespread utilization of energy efficient lighting (EEL) systems in the Philippines. It is aimed at contributing to the realization of the country's sustainable development objectives and its goal in reducing green house gas (GHG) emissions in the energy sector. It will specifically focus on the promotion of EELs energy efficient version of linear fluorescent lamps (i.e., slim tube T8 triphospor coated) compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), high intensity discharge (HID) lamps, ballasts (low loss electromagnetic and electronic), and energy efficient luminaries.

The project will accelerate integration of EEL promotion programs to the energy conservation and energy efficiency program of the Department of Energy (DOE), enhance private sector's involvement and appreciation of the benefits of EELs, and ensure that environmental impacts associated with widespread use of EELs are mitigated.

To be able to attain said objectives, the project requires the services of an **Energy Service Company (ESCO) Specialist.**

The national consultant will assist DOE to design and implement ESCO-led EEL Systems projects in the Philippines. This activity will build on the ELI-Philippines "Model ESCO Transaction Project" with the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) on the design and implementation of the model energy performance contracts.

The United Nations strongly encourages applications from qualified women candidates.

Interested parties must submit their letters of interest, together with their curriculum vitaes (CV's), until **21 February 2005**, to the following address :

Development Support Services Center
United Nations Development Programme
30th Floor Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza
6819 Ayala Avenue corner Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue 1226 Makati City
Tel. No. (632) 901 0100
Fax No. (632) 901 0200 / 889 7177

Bid Documents will be released to shortlisted candidates starting **25 February 2005**. The Bid Documents shall contain all instructions on the rules, procedures, dates and other schedules, as well as further details on the scope of services required.

UNDP reserves the right to reject any or all the bids, waive any defect or informality therein, accept the bid and award the contract to the most advantageous offer to the UNDP, for and in behalf of the Department of Energy. UNDP assumes no responsibility to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred for the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **ETHELIND B. CAPUNO**
Manager, DSSC

LCR FORM NO 1 (LCRO)

Republic of the Philippines
Local Civil Registry Office
Province of Misamis Oriental
Cagayan De Oro City

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In compliance with Section 5 of R.A. No. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that **RENATO A. TANGO** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from **ELMO** to **RENATO**. In the Certificate of Live Birth of **ELMO TANGO** who was born on March 20, 1952 at NAGUILIAN BALLESTEROS, CAGAYAN and whose parents are **DOROTEO M. TANGO** and **AURELIA AMANCIO**.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition within this office not later than February 15, 2005.

(Sgd) NORMA S. DIPUTADO
City Civil Registrar

(PDI–Feb. 7 & 14, 2005)

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

WANTED Rush Truck Drivers High Sal. w/exp prof llc.no.2,3,8 Call 873-5271•872-0265•

FEMALE

Exp. PATTERN MAKER CUTTER For Ladies Wear FEMALE
STOCK CLERK
Stay In w/ Meals Call 532-2495 532-2398 Opie Flora Mon-Sat 9 a m - 5 p m

GREAT OCEAN AQUAMARINE CORPORATION
WANTED FEMALE SECRETARY ACCTG GRADUATE AT LEAST WITH EXPERIENCE. BRING RESUME', TOR, NBI, MED CERTIFICATE
3420 MAURA ST., FACTOR COMPOUND, DONGALO, PARANAQUE CITY
TEL#851-2421 / 852-3944

MALE/FEMALE

BSP•BSN•PT•MT
Any Allied Health Grads up to P45T/ Mol 8922818

CAREGIVER T4043528

GRAPHIC ARTIST ADOBE COREL SECRETARY PC LIT W/EXP 2536130 / 2570679

★JOB HIRING★
Office Staff -M/F 20-35yo
Call Ms JOAN • 634-7802

LORMA MEDICAL CENTER
San Fernando City, La Union
Needs: RN's, MRI Technicians
10-15 Medical Interns for 2005-06. Respiratory Therapists, Admitting Clerk
Tel.072-700-0000
www.lorma.org"Over 70 Years of Quality Health Care!"

PASIG CONDO
High Comm. with Allowances
Tel.# 7231322 / 09169715230

SALES MKTG STF 09178451373

Wanted: Llc Med-Tech 746-1537

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

The Office of the Representative of the United Nations Population Fund, Manila is seeking applications from competent candidates to fill the post of

Provincial Administrative-cum-Finance Assistants.

Under the overall guidance of the UNFPA Area Officer, the technical guidance of the UNFPA Administrative and Finance Assistants and the immediate supervision of the UNFPA Provincial Project Coordinator (for Luzon and Visayas) or the Project Area Coordinator (for Mindanao), ten (10) UNFPA Provincial Administrative–cum-Finance Assistants will be hired for the provinces of Ifugao, Mountain Province, Masbate, Eastern Samar, Bohol, Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao, Lanao Sur, Tawi-Tawi and Sulu. They will perform the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Assist the Provincial or Area Coordinators and the designated Provincial/ Municipal Focal Persons in the establishment of the Provincial/Municipal Project Management Units (PMUs) and in the installation of the administrative and financial systems and procedures in these project units.
2. Handle all correspondence and communications pertaining to the provincial and municipal UNFPA projects. Take charge of records management and provide secretarial services such as minutes-taking, accepting and making phone calls, etc.
3. Attend to the administrative needs of the projects including procurement and distribution of office supplies and equipment and their maintenance.
4. Handle all financial transactions of the provincial and municipal projects. Closely monitor the status of funds utilization in the province and municipalities.
5. Assist the province and municipalities in the accomplishment of financial forms and preparation of reports, on a quarterly basis, and consolidate them for submission to UNFPA Finance in Manila.
6. Coordinate the conduct of the provincial and municipal audits.
7. Perform other tasks that may be assigned by the UNFPA Area Officer, UNFPA AFA, or the Provincial or Area Project Coordinator .

Qualifications:

Must be a graduate of business administration, accounting or HR-related courses, preferably a CPA.
Must have at least 5 years of experience in accounting and finance, administration and human resource management, working with foreign-assisted projects.
Familiarity with UNFPA rules and procedures is an asset
Must be proficient in MS Word, MS Excel, PowerPoint and internet applications.
Must have good interpersonal and communications skills.
Demonstrates and promotes teamwork, integrity and impartiality in all matters affecting his/her work.
Willing to travel to depressed and disadvantaged areas and be based in the province of assignment.

Applicants are requested to send their application letters indicating post title together with completed UN Personal History Forms (P.11), available at www.unfpa.org.ph/jobs to:

The Country Representative
United Nations Population Fund
P.O. Box 7285 DAPO
1300 Domestic Road
Pasay City, Metro Manila

Or through email at officemail@unfpa.org.ph

Salary: Negotiable based on experience and qualifications

Deadline for submission of applications: 25 February 2005 (Only short-listed applicants will be notified).

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
Center for Health Development – V
BICOL MEDICAL CENTER
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Naga City
☎ 811-7802 loc. 36 • 📠 473-8936; 473-2334

January 27, 2005

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Bicol Medical Center (BMC) invites sealed Bids from eligible bidders who are qualified to participate in the following projects:
   a. *Project:* Procurement of Various Pharmeceuticals
      Approved Budget for the Contract: TWENTY ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED FIFTY FOUR THOUSAND PESOS (PhP21,254,000.00)
      Release of Bid Documents: February 7 to March 4, 2005
      Cost of Bid Documents : TWO THOUSAND PESOS (PhP2,000.00)
      Pre-Bid Conference: March 4, 2005 9:00 a.m. BMC Auditorium Bid Opening: March 18, 2005 9:00 a.m. BMC Auditorium
   b. *Project:* Procurement of Medical Gases
      Approved Budget for the Contract: TWO MILLION FIFTY NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED NINETY TWO PESOS (PhP2,059,762.00)
      Release of Bid Documents: February 7 to March 10, 2005
      Cost of Bid Documents: EIGHT HUNDRED PESOS (PhP800.00)
      Pre-Bid Conference: March 10, 2005 9:00 am, BMC Library
      Bid Opening: March 21, 2005 9:00 am BMC Library
2. Eligibility of prospective Bidders to participate will be based on compliance to eligibility requirements, using pass/fail non-discretionary criteria, as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations-A (IRR-A) of Republic Act No. 9184 (RA 9184), *The Government Procurement Reform Act (GPRA)*, and is open to all organizations with at least sixty (60%) percent interest belonging to citizens of the Philippines. The process for eligibility check is described in Clause 12 Section II of the Instructions to Bidders. In accordance with the IRR-A of RA 9184, only those Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check shall be opened and the Purchase Order (PO) awarded to the Bidder with the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid, provided the Bidder concerned passes the post qualification process.
3. Interested Bidders who wish to inspect the Bidding Documents and obtain further information should contact the BAC Secretariat c/o Supply Section, Bicol Medical Center, Naga City, Telephone No. 473-2334; 473-8936, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mondays to Fridays.
4. A complete set of Bidding Documents per project may be purchased upon submission of a written application to the following address:
   Dr. RODOLFO C. URSUA
   Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
   Bicol Medical Center
   Naga City
5. Bids must be delivered to the above address on the specified date and time per project. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in an amount at least equal to, and not lower than, a percentage of the approved budget, in any of the following forms/terms:
   a) Cash, certified check, cashier's/manager's check, Bank draft, or irrevocable letter of credit – One Percent (1%)
   b) Bank Guarantee – One & A Half Percent (1-1/2%)
   c) GSIS Surety Bond – Two & A Half Percent (2-1/2%)
6. The BMC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at any time prior to issuance of the Award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder of Bidders.

(Sgd.) ***RODOLFO C. URSUA, MD,FPCS,FPUA***
Medical Specialist II and Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI- Feb. 7 & 14, 2005)

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2/F Engineering Building, MWSS Compound
Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City
Telephone Nos. +632 9265233; + 632 4333446
Telefax Nos.: + 632 9265234; + 632 4333444

NOTICE OF CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON THE PASIG RIVER FERRY SERVICE PROJECT

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that the Pasig River Ferry Project will hold a consultative meeting on March 1, 2005, Tuesday at 2:00 P.M. to be held at the Manila City Conference Room of the Metro Manila Development Authority, 2F, MMDA Building, EDSA corner Orense St., Guadalupe, Makati City.

For inquiries, please call Mr. Michael Acosta / Ms. Amelita Gamay at Telefax Nos. 926-5233 / 926-5234.

(Sgd.) BINGLE GUTIERREZ
Executive Director

(PDI – February 12 & 14, 2005)

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

The Office of the Representative of the United Nations Population Fund, Manila is seeking applications from competent candidates to fill the post of

Provincial Project Coordinators (Luzon and Visayas)

Under the immediate supervision of the Governor and in close working partnership with the UNFPA Area Officers, five Provincial Project Coordinators (PPCs) covering the provinces of Mountain Province, Ifugao, Masbate, Eastern Samar and Bohol will be hired to serve as the frontline link of UNFPA with the implementing partners. They will perform the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Assist the provinces and municipalities in setting up their respective project management units (PMUs) ensuring that the necessary legal requirements have been complied with, focal persons for the project have been properly designated at the provincial, municipal and NGO levels, and office space, furniture and basic supplies have been provided.
2. Formulate and ensure the adoption of a provincial and municipal manual of operations spelling out the systems and procedures to be used by the PMUs based on UNFPA rules and regulations.
3. Working closely with the designated focal persons, assist in the orientation of provincial and municipal officials, service providers and other stakeholders about the 6th CP and its major components. Ensure that the activities spelled out in the quarterly and annual work plans are carried out by the LGUs as planned and on a timely basis.
4. Provide technical assistance to the province and municipalities in the preparation of quarterly and annual work plans and results-based reports and ensure the timely submission of these documents to UNFPA Manila.
5. Coordinate the conduct of inter- and intra- provincial and municipal activities such as community assessments and baseline surveys, training of service providers, IEC and advocacy campaigns, etc.
6. Coordinate the monitoring visits of UNFPA, donors, and national and regional partners. Assist in monitoring the progress of implementation of provinces and municipalities vis-à-vis outputs and targets, on a regular basis, and address operational problems as they arise. Prepare corresponding monitoring reports for submission to concerned UNFPA Area Officer.
7. Facilitate requests of provinces and municipalities for technical assistance from the region, national agencies, NGOs and UNFPA.
8. Serve as resource person or trainor for capacity building activities.
9. Document program activities in the area of responsibility. Assist the province and municipalities in the identification and documentation of their best practices.
10. Perform other duties that may be assigned by the UNFPA Area Officer, the Governor or the PMU members.

Qualifications:

Must be a holder of a bachelors degree, preferably in the social sciences.
Must have at least 5 years experience working in reproductive health, population and gender projects, preferably at the LGU/community level.
Must have excellent interpersonal, communication (oral and written), facilitating and negotiating skills.
Works harmoniously with the rest of the team, sharing knowledge and information openly and displaying cultural and gender sensitivity.
Must be proficient in MS Word, MS Excel, PowerPoint and internet applications.
Willing to travel to depressed and disadvantaged areas and be based in the province of assignment.

Applicants are requested to send their application letters indicating post title together with completed UN Personal History Forms (P.11), available at www.unfpa.org.ph/jobs to:

The Country Representative
United Nations Population Fund
P.O. Box 7285 DAPO
1300 Domestic Road
Pasay City, Metro Manila

Or through email at officemail@unfpa.org.ph

Salary: Negotiable based on experience and qualifications

Deadline for submission of applications: 25 February 2005 (Only short-listed applicants will be notified).

NFA-FDC generates P12.15M in 2004

THE FOOD Development Center (FDC), a line department of the National Food Authority (NFA), registered total earnings amounting to P12.15 million from its operations last year. According to FDC director Dr. Alicia O. Lustre, P11.03 million or 91 percent out of the total income were fees collected from food industry clients while the remaining P1.12 million or 9 percent were from grants for special projects in collaboration with the universities of Georgia and North Carolina. Lustre said last year's FDC income was higher by P22,900 compared to their 2003 income of P12.13 million. The increase is attributed to the increase in number of clients that sought FDC's services on trainings and on upgrading the safety and quality of processed foods.

The FDC is mandated to provide technical support to the Philippine food industry in the areas of technology adoption, manpower training, product and process evaluation, certification and standards development. Among the projects it handles include quality evaluation of food products, quality assurance (QA) services, seminar, training and workshop for the food industry and facilitation of food industry projects for international trade. For further information of the Food Development Center's projects, the public may inquire through contact numbers 8384314 to 15.

Republic of the Philippines
National Power Corporation
MAGAT RIVER HYDROELECTRIC PLANT
Brgy. Gen. Aguinaldo, Ramon, Isabela

RE-INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The NPC-Magat Hydroelectric Power Plant (MHEPP) is inviting interested private janitorial and manpower agencies for the SUPPLY OF LABOR, TOOLS/ EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES AND SUPERVISION RELATED TO JANITORIAL/LAWN AND GARDEN/LANDSCAPING AND SUPPLY OF TECHNICAL, SKILLED, SEMI-SKILLED, UNSKILLED AND CLERICAL SUPPORT MANPOWER SERVICES for a contract period of two (2) years with an Approved Budget for the Contract of P 8,900,000.00.

Applicant(s) who may Apply for Eligibility and to Bid shall meet the following requirements:

1. Duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and/or Department of Trade and Industry (DTI); or
2. Duly registered with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), in case of Cooperative.

Complete set of Eligibility and Bid Documents shall be available for issuance starting **February 08, 2005** up to **February 21, 2005**, upon submission and presentation of photocopy of SEC/DTI/CDA to the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) c/o the Secretariat, Administration Division between 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM during weekdays and payment of a non-refundable fee of **One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P 1,500.00)**.

Pre-bid Conference and Opening of Bids (Single Stage Bidding) will be on the following dates:

Pre-bid Conference	*Submission & Opening of Bids*
Date: March 04, 2005	*Date: March 16, 2005*
Time: 9:00 AM	*Time: 9:00 AM*
Venue: MHEP Conference Room	*Venue: MHEP Conference Room*

The determination of eligibility shall be based on the submission of the required documents, utilizing the prescribed forms and using the criteria stated in the Eligibility Guidelines, Instruction to Bidders and Section 23.11 of the IRR of RA 9184.

The bidder with Lowest Calculated Bid will be subject to Post-qualification procedure before an award is made. Bids Prices submitted higher than the Approved Budget shall be rejected and returned outright.

W. R. FERRER
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--Feb. 7 & 14, 2005)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The public is hereby notified that ANTHONY JOHN MEDCALF, whose photograph appears above, is no longer connected with BLUE CROSS INSURANCE, INC. or BLUE CROSS HEALTH CARE, INC. Hence, any transaction that may be entered into by him shall no longer be honored by the company.

GIA®

Thailand Campus

Learn from the world's foremost authority in gemology
70+ year history of excellence in education
over 300,000 students worldwide

Gain professionalism with gems
From the world's foremost authority

Colored Stones Diploma Program
starts April 4, 2005

GIA Thailand Campus

Bisco Tower-12th Fl., 56/12 Sub Rd., Bangrak, Bangkok Thailand
Tel: (662) 237-9575 / 77 Fax: (662) 236-9829
giathai@ksc.th.com www.giathailand.com

NFA employee goes home with a Fulbright degree

AN employee of the National Food Authority recently came back from a two-year Fulbright Philippine Agriculture Scholarship Program (FPASP) from Kansas State University in the United States. Mario Andrada, senior grains operations officer (SGOO) of the food agency's Technology Resource Development Department (TRDD) completed the degree of Master of Science in Agronomy. Over a hundred applicants vied for the FPAS program. Fulbright scholarship programs aim to develop mutual understanding between the US and the Philippines through educational and cultural exchanges.

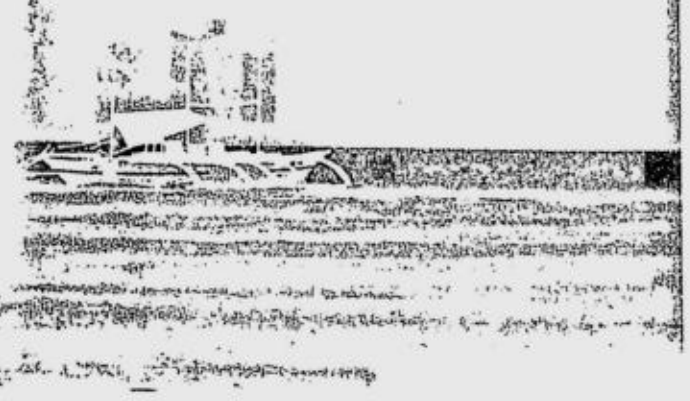
Andrada is a graduate of the G. Araneta University Foundation with a bachelor's degree in agriculture major in agronomy. Previously a research specialist, Andrada was promoted to SGOO while on study.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 897-8425 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8978425
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 522-4406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

THE HERITAGE PARK
Memorial Chapel
*The newest and most modern Funeral Home & Crematory in the country!
Trunk Line: (632) 845-2334 to 38
Direct Line: (632) 845-2440

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.



Always caring...
INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any Identification document (I.D.)
WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments.

Evelyn Adamos Battad

of Olongapo City

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord on February 12, 2005 at the age of 73.

Her loving husband, **ARCHIMEDES I. BATTAD**, children **ARLYN B. CAÑEDA, MENCHI B. ARGUELLES, EVA MARIE, ARCHIE** and **ALVIN**, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, brothers, sisters, grandchildren, and other relatives and friends, request pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Knights of Columbus, Olongapo City.

Interment will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2005 after the 10:00 am Mass at Knights of Columbus. Burial will be at the Olongapo City Memorial Park.

CLASSIFIEDS

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Visit the SSS website for Bid Invitations

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY & TO BID
SSS EMPLOYEES' RICE REQUIREMENT FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF CY2005 & COMPUTER EQUIPMENT

The **SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM** is inviting bidders to apply for eligibility & to bid for the following items:

1. Supply and door-to-door delivery of approximately 7,700 sacks of Freshly Milled Premium Grade Commercial Rice for SSS employees for the second quarter of Year 2005 with the following specifications:
   - Degree of Milling : Well Milled Rice (WMR)
   - Moisture Content : 14% (maximum)
   - Grade Specifications : Headrice – 90% to 95% (minimum) Broken – 10% to 5% (maximum)
   - Packaging : 50 kilos in light yellow woven polyprophylene
   - Labeling : With front & back markings
   - Delivery Terms : Thirty (30) calendar days upon receipt of the Purchase Order (P.O.)

   Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC : P1,200.00 per sack per employee
   Source of Fund : Operating Expense – Rice Grant
2. Various Computer Equipment for Branch Tellering System (2nd Batch) composed of the following:

Particulars	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	Source of Fund
47 units PC Workstation	P3,434,744.00	2005 Budget for Nationwide Tellering Project
47 units Slip Printer	P2,402,217.00	-do-
Three-year Maintenance Services for the above equipment	P1,751,097.00	Budget for Operating Expenditures: M/R Computer Equipment
TOTAL ABC	P7,586,088.00	

Delivery Schedule: Thirty (30) calendar days
Eligible bidders may submit cost proposals in any of the following options:
- Purchase
- 5-year Lease – Rental
- 5-year Lease – Transfer

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Particulars	Date	Venue
Issuance of eligibility requirements	February 14 to 23, 2005	BAC Secretariat, 6th Flr., SSS Main Bldg.
Deadline of submission of eligibility requirements • Item #1 • Item #2	February 28, 2005 March 01, 2005	BAC Secretariat, 6th Flr., SSS Main Bldg.
Issuance of Bidding Documents to Eligible Bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P5,000.00 for each project	March 02, 2005 (item #1) March 03, 2005 (item #2)	BAC Secretariat, 6th Flr., SSS Main Bldg.
Pre-bid Conference • Item #1 • Item #2	March 04, 2005 2:00 p.m. March 07, 2005 2:00 p.m.	Bidding Room, 6th Flr., SSS Main Bldg. Bidding Room, 6th Flr.,

For any inquiry, please call telephone numbers 922-2991 or 920-6401 local 5490/5491.

This bidding shall be governed by the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".

The SSS reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, to waive any formality or technicality, and to award to any bidder whose proposal is deemed most advantageous to the SSS. The SSS neither assumes any obligation for any loss whatsoever that may be incurred by the bidders in the preparation of their respective bids, nor does the SSS guarantee that an award will be made.

THE CHAIRMAN
BIDS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

(PDI – February 14, 2005)

AUCTION

www.henrybutcher.com
On the instructions of an internationally renowned Semiconductor Packaging Company on their move to larger & more modern premises.

SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION
At.: 1321 Apolinario St., Bangkal, Makati, Philippines
On: Saturday 19th February 2005 - 10:30am

ELECTRONIC/ELECTRICAL; PUMPS; MOTORS; STORAGE SYSTEMS; OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT, MISCELLANEOUS ETC.

In over 700 lots including: -

ELECTRONIC/ELECTRICAL - INTERMEC Barcode Printers; COGNEX Vision System Camera Controllers, PANASONIC Inverter, MITSUBISHI Programmable Controllers; SIMCO Aerostat Air Ionizers; Asstd. Power Supply Boxes, Transformers, etc.
PUMPS/MOTORS - BALDOR, G E. MAGNETEC, TOSHIBA, PANASONIC, ELECTROCRAFT, VEXTA, EMERSON, ORIENTAL Induction Motors, HYDRACELL Pump, etc.
STORAGE SYSTEMS - STANLEY VIDMAR Steel Accessory Drawers; Tool Boxes; Steel Collapsible Rackings, Steel PCB Racks, Unused Carton Boxes; Tote Boxes; Moisture Barrier Bags, etc
OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT - Executive Swivel Chairs, Chemical Chairs; Wooden Desks; Computer Tables, Wooden Cabinets; Lateral Filing Cabinets; Pedestal Drawers; LAN Racks; Conference Tables; Modular Partitions; Steel Lockers, etc
MISCELLANEOUS - 3M, DAEWON Jedec Matrix Trays; ADVANTEK Cover Tapes; Carrier Tapes; Stainless Pizza Trays; Fire Control Gears; Stainless Mobile Tray Carriers; Anti-Static Chip Tubes; Telephone Handsets, Labeling Tapes, Bond Papers, Aluminum PCB, Magazines, Caster Wheels

On View: Fri. 18th February 2005 - 9:00am to 5:00pm & morning of sale day
Refundable Deposit: Php10,000 (upon registration)
Please bring valid ID to be presented during registration

PLEASE NOTE: NO SLIPPERS/SANDALS, NO SLEEVELESS SHIRTS, NO SHORTS, NO SMOKING, NO VIDEO/CAMERA, NO CHILDREN - WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE AUCTION PREMISES PLEASE CONTACT THE AUCTIONEERS OFFICE FOR MORE DETAILS

For further information please contact May Almudin at Tel. 852 2910 loc. 100
Email: may.almudin@henrybutcher.com

GoIndustry Henry Butcher
HENRY BUTCHER INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES INC.
Rm. 102 Jolliland Bldg., 670 Edsa, Pasay City, Philippines
Tel No.: +(63-2) 852-2910 - 11 Fax No : +(63-2) 831-9507
E-mail: manila@henrybutcher.com
Website: www.henrybutcher.com/www.goindustry.com

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Bukidnon
MUNICIPALITY OF DANGCAGAN
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC)

INVITATION TO BID

The Government of the Philippines through the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) has received a loan from Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of Agrarian Reform Community Project (ARCP) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the following contract located at Barangay Miaray, Municipality of Dangcagan, Province of Bukidnon for which this Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid is issued.

The Local Government of Dangcagan, Province of Bukidnon as implementing partner of DAR for ARCP invites contractor's classified and registered with the Philippine Contractor's Accreditation Board (PCAB) as MEDIUM "A" to apply for eligibility and bid for the Rehabilitation of 3.22 kms. Jct. Provincial Rd. – Miaray – Fatima – Pulangui Road.

Project Duration	- 150 Calendar Days
Approved Budget Cost	- Php 5,903,567.16
Deadline of the Submission of Letter of Intent and Eligibility Requirements	- March 7, 2005
Deadline of Submission of Bids	- April 2, 2005 @ 9:00 A.M. @ BAC Secretariat Office Dangcagan Municipal Hall
Opening of Bids	- April 20, 2005 @ 10:00 A.M. Conference Room Dangcagan Municipal Hall

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

Item No.	Scope of Works	Quantity	Unit
100	Clearing & Grubbing	23,200	Sq.m.
102	Common Excavation	14,900	Cu.m.
103	Structure Excavation	370	Cu.m.
104 (1)	Embankment	9,600	Cu.m.
104 (2)	Selected Fill	3,110	Cu.m.
201	Aggregate Base Course	2,000	Cu.m.
500-1A	RCPC – 0.910 Diameter	155	L.M.
505	Stone Masonry	307	Cu.m.

Minimum Equipment Required

Bulldozer (1 unit)-owned; Road Grader (1 unit)- owned; Road Roller (1 unit)-owned; Water Truck (1 unit)- owned or lease; Backhoe (1 unit)-owned or lease; Dump Truck (4 units)-owned

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by the interested bidders at the BAC Secretariat Office of the Municipality of Dangcagan, Province of Bukidnon starting March 1, 2005 from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P5,000.00 for each set. Pre-bid conference will be held in the same address on April 8, 2005 at 9:00 A.M.

A Bid Security is required in a form of GSIS Surety Bond equivalent to 2 ½ of the Approved Budget of the Contract or in form of Cash, Certified Check, Manager's Check, Cashier's Check in an amount equivalent to 1% of the Approved Budget of the Contract.

Unless otherwise indicated in the instruction to bidders or other bidding and contract documents, all particulars relative to the procurement and contract implementation shall be governed by RA 9184 and its IRR-A.

The LGU-BAC of Dangcagan, Province of Bukidnon reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any direct or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate indemnity to the contractor/bidder for any expenses that they may incur in the preparation of bid and to accept the lowest, evaluated, responsive and complying bid.

(Sgd.) LEONARDO D. DUROG
BAC Chairman

(PDI – Feb. 14 & 21, 2005)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
CORPORATION FINANCE DEPARTMENT
6th Flr. SEC Bldg EDSA, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos. 725-8508; 726-2264 Fax 727-2990
Website http://www.sec.gov.ph

IN THE MATTER OF :
ALJEMS FINANCE CORPORATION : APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE
(Formerly: Aljem's Credit Investors Corporation : OF AUTHORITY TO OPERATE AS A FINANCING COMPANY

NOTICE AND ORDER

Notice is hereby given that the above-named corporation has filed an application for a Certificate of Authority to engage in financing business in accordance with Sections 2,4, and 5 of the Rules and Regulations to implement the Provisions of R.A. No. 8556 (The Financing Company Act of 1998). Its principal office shall be located in Davao City.

The applicant's capital structure is as follows:

Authorized Capital Stock	P 20,000,000.00
Subscribed Capital Stock	11,000,000.00
Paid-up Capital Stock	10,000,000.00

According to the papers/documents presented, the following persons are the directors/officers of the corporation:

Name	Position
Pacifico V. Dizon	Director/President
Michael Thadeo C. Dizon	Director/Vice-President
Amelia C Dizon	Director/Treasurer
Lucille D. Mijares	Director
Jessica Kim D. Ros	Director/Secretary

This Notice and Order shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks and shall be simultaneously posted in a public and conspicuous place in the City/Municipality where the office of the company is proposed to be located and in the office of the Commission.

Any interested party may oppose the application in writing personally or through counsel within two (2) weeks after the last publication of the Notice. If the Commission finds that the requirements of R.A. No. 8556, the Implementing Rules and Regulations and other pertinent laws have been complied with and no valid reason exists for the disapproval of the subject application, the Commission shall take appropriate action on said application.

SO ORDERED.

December 11, 2004

(Sgd.) JUSTINA F. CALLANGAN
Director

(PDI–Feb. 7 & 14, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON
Malaybalay City
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Provincial Governor's Office

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID (RE-BID)

The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) of the Province of Bukidnon, invites interested Suppliers, Distributors and Manufacturers to apply for eligibility and to bid on the following projects

NAME OF PROJECTS	APPROVED BUDGET OF THE CONTRACT	SOURCE OF FUND
I. DRUGS & MEDICINES	P9,237,729.50	General Fund & Capitation
II. MEDICAL AND LAB. SUPPLIES AND REAGENTS	P2,006,283.69	General Fund & Capitation
III. MEDICAL AND LABORATORY EQUIPMENT	P1,175,000.00	Trust Fund

This is for the use of Seven (7) Provincial Hospitals and twenty-two (22) Provincial Health Stations of the Province of Bukidnon. Immediate delivery or a maximum of fifteen (15) working days upon receipt of the purchase order is strictly required. Goods will be delivered at the Provincial General Services Office, Capitol Compound, Malaybalay City.

Schedule of activities are as follows:
1. February 01, 2005 – Issuance of eligibility requirements
2. February 04, 2005 – Pre-procurement Conference
3. February 08, 2005 – Pre-bid conference (BAC office)
4. February 09, 2005 – Issuance of bid documents
5. February 18, 2005 – 9:00am Eligibility Check
6. February 21, 2005 – 9.00am deadline for the submission of bids.
7. February 21, 2005 – 10.00am opening of bids in sealed envelop.

Only responsible and interested suppliers are qualified to participate upon presentation of the following:
1. Business Registration-DTI/SEC
2. VAT/BIR Tax clearance certificate
3. Mayor's permit
4. License to operate issued by BFAD
5. CPR certificate for Product requiring certificate
6. Certificate of exclusive distributorship
7. List of products
8. Company's pharmacy license
9. Accomplished track record
10. Sworn statement of disclosure of relations
11. Supplier's audited financial statement
12. NFCC's computation or commitment from a licensed bank or cash deposit of at least equal to 10% of the ABC of the contract to bid.
13. Statement of prospective bidder that they are not Blacklisted or barred from bidding by the Gov't or any of its offices
14. Special power of attorney issued by authorized company official with authority to transact business and sign in behalf of the owner.

NOTE: Accredited Suppliers need not to submit the said documents.

Complete sets of eligibility requirements and bid documents may be obtained at the BAC Secretariat at the Provincial General Services Office, Province of Bukidnon, upon payment of non refundable fee of P250.00/set. Duly accomplished eligibility requirements and bid documents shall be submitted in sealed envelope addressed to BAC chairman c/o BAC Secretariat

The provision of R.A. 9184 and its implementing rules and regulations, shall govern all particulars relative to eligibility, bid bond, performance bond, pre-bid conference, bid evaluation and award of contract.

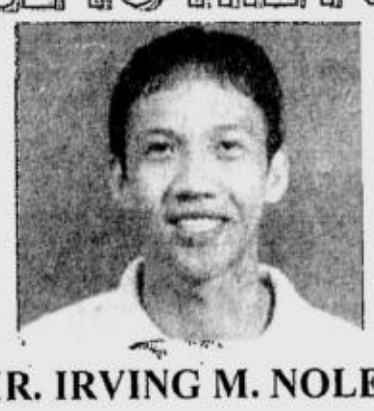
The BAC of the Province of Bukidnon reserves the right to accept or reject all bids thereof, to waive formality therein or to accept such bids or to award any work that is considered most advantageous to the Province of Bukidnon.

For any inquiry, please feel free to call BAC secretariat at telephone number 088-221-25-37 or 088-813-33-53

(Sgd.) MR. JOSEFREDIE F. FLORES
BAC Chairman/Provincial Administrator

(PDI-Feb. 7 & 14, 2005)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



MR. IRVING M. NOLEAL

This is to inform the public that **MR. IRVING MARASIGAN NOLEAL**, whose picture appears above with last known addresses at 3781 Hen Estrella Bangkal Makati City and #68 Dayangdang St. Naga City is no longer connected with **DIWA DISTRINET INC.**, a distributor of **DIWA LEARNING SYSTEMS INC** publications effective November 1, 2004.

Henceforth, he no longer has the authority to transact or conduct business in behalf of the above-mentioned companies.

DIWA MANAGEMENT

(PDI–Feb. 14, 2005)

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.

JOB Market
www.jobmarketonline.com

AUCTION

www.henrybutcher.com
By order of a Major Multinational Semiconductor Manufacturer
FOR SALE BY ON-LINE AUCTION

SEMICONDUCTOR ASSEMBLY AND PACKAGING EQUIPMENT
Located: Manila Philippines

Sale 4 - Closes Wednesday 16th February 2005
Including: - (13) K&S 1488 Plus, (9) 1488I Turbo Wire Bonders; (2) ESEC 2006 HR/X Die Bonders; (3) DAGE PC2400 Bond Testers; MITUTOYO Profile Projectors; Component Handlers, 3D Laser Inspection Systems, MARKEM V1470 Package Marking Systems; SUMITOMO ATM-75 Transfer Moulding Machines, DESPATCH, CRITERIA Curing/Bake Ovens; SCHLUMBERGER Component Sorters, etc

For detailed information go to www.henrybutcher.com and look for the "Semiconductor Packaging Equipment" Auctions on the above dates.

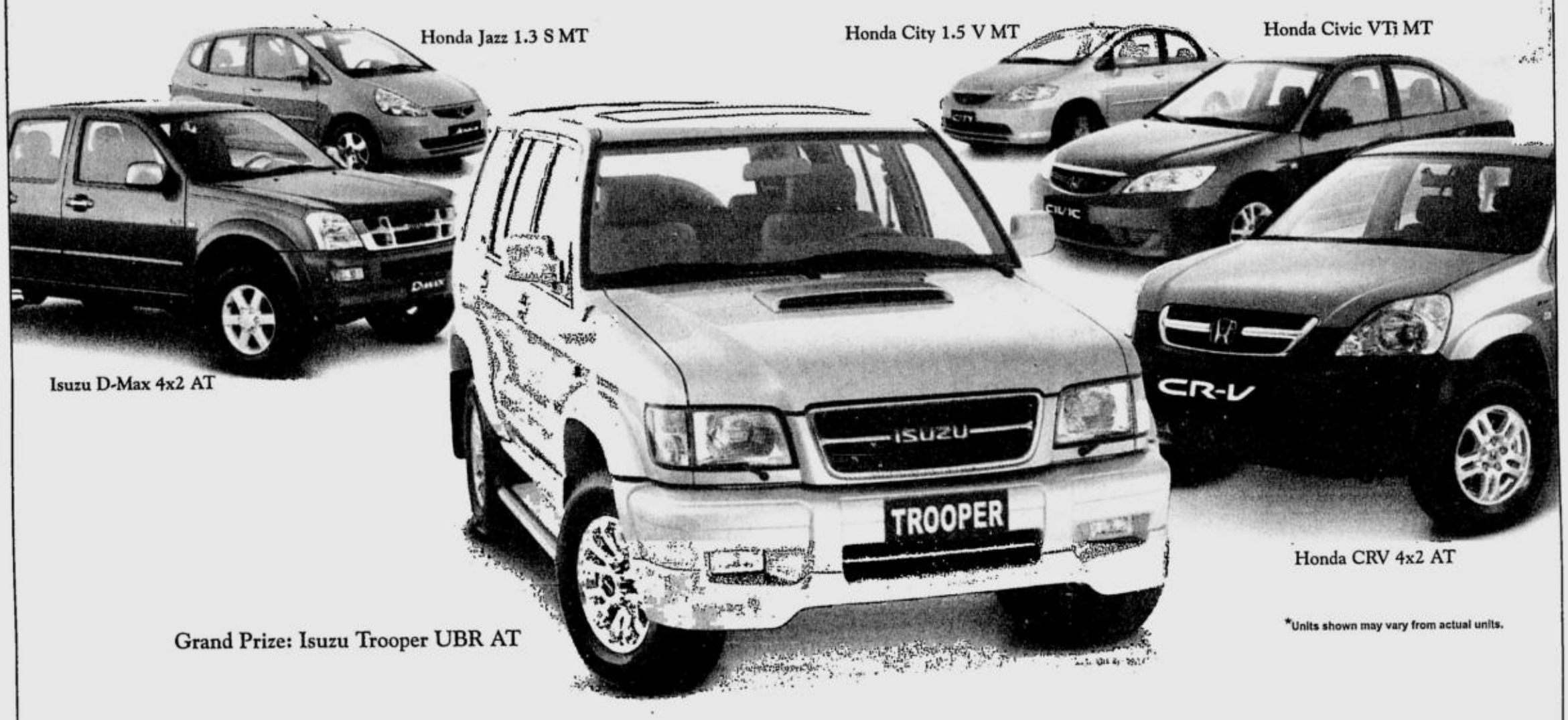
PLEASE CONTACT:
Philippines
Matthew Freeston Tel +632 852 2910/11 e-mail: matt.freeston@henrybutcher.com
Chris Major Tel +632 852 2910/11 e-mail: chris.major@henrybutcher.com
Hong Kong
Soebeidah Poon Tel +852 2925 9313 e-mail: soebeidah.poon@henrybutcher.com

GoIndustry Henry Butcher
HENRY BUTCHER INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES INC.
Rm. 102 Jolliland Bldg., 670 Edsa, Pasay City, Philippines.
Tel No.: +(63-2) 852-2910 - 11 Fax No.: +(63-2) 831-9507
E-mail: manila@henrybutcher.com
Website: www.henrybutcher.com/www.goindustry.com

RCBC
RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION

RCBC
Savings Bank

DRIVEN
PROMO



*Units shown may vary from actual units.

It's your chance to win – while you save and earn!
No entry forms to fill out! No texting of entries!

A total of P4.6 Million cash to be given away!

Four (4) Entertainment Showcases worth P100,000 each.

Four (4) Outdoor Showcases worth P100,000 each.

Four (4) Home Theater Showcases worth P150,000 each.

Four (4) Kitchen Showcases worth P150,000 each.

How to join:

1. The promo is automatically open to all existing and new Individual depositors of RCBC and RCBC Savings Bank's regular rate (1% p.a.) or non-interest earning savings/checking accounts, except for SWAT products. Individual investors of Unit Investment Trust Funds (UITF), with investments within promo period, are also included. The promo is open to Peso and US Dollar denominations.

2. To qualify, the following basic criteria must be met each promo month:
   - Deposit account must be active and have at least P10,000 or US$1,000 monthly Average Daily Balance (ADB).
   - UITF investment must have at least P25,000 or US$2,000 outstanding placement.

3. For Deposits: Qualified deposit accounts will receive one (1) raffle number for every P2,000 or US$200.

4. For UITF: One raffle entry is to be given for every P5,000 or US$500 new or additional investment.

5. Depositors & UITF investors may check their raffle entries at the RCBC or RCBC Savings Bank Business Center of their account.

6. Raffle draws are divided into Luzon, Metro Manila, Visayas, and Mindanao. National draw winners will be drawn from a combined pool of the four regions.

7. There will be six (6) Monthly Draws and one (1) Grand Draw. Draw dates, valid entries, and prizes are as follows:

Draws	Dates	Prizes
1st	March 23,2005 (Wednesday) Entries for February 4 – 28, 2005	**Regional:** • Four (4) Cash Prizes worth P50,000 each to be drawn from each region (1 Metro Manila, 1 Luzon, 1 Visayas, 1 Mindanao)
2nd	April 22, 2005 (Friday) Entries for March 1 – 31, 2005	**National:** • ***One (1) Honda Jazz 1.3 S MT*** **Regional:** • Four (4) Cash Prizes worth P100,000 each to be drawn from each region (1 Metro Manila, 1 Luzon, 1 Visayas, 1 Mindanao)
3rd	May 23, 2005 (Monday) Entries for April 1 - 30, 2005	**National:** • ***One (1) Honda City 1.5 V MT*** **Regional:** • Four (4) Entertainment Showcases worth P100,000 each to be drawn from each region (1 Metro Manila, 1 Luzon, 1 Visayas, 1 Mindanao)
4th	June 23, 2005 (Thursday) Entries for May 1 - 31, 2005	**National:** • ***One (1) Honda Civic VTI MT*** **Regional:** • Four (4) Outdoor Showcases worth P100,000 each to be drawn from each region (1 Metro Manila, 1 Luzon, 1 Visayas, 1 Mindanao)
5th	July 22, 2005 (Friday) Entries for June 1 - 30, 2005	**National:** • ***One (1) Isuzu D-Max 4X2 AT*** **Regional:** • Four (4) Home Theater Showcases worth P150,000 each to be drawn from each region (1 Metro Manila, 1 Luzon, 1 Visayas, 1 Mindanao)
6th	August 23, 2005 (Tuesday) Entries for July 1 - 31, 2005	**National:** • ***One (1) Honda CRV 4X2 8-seater AT*** **Regional:** • Four (4) Kitchen Showcases worth P150,000 each to be drawn from each region (1 Metro Manila, 1 Luzon, 1 Visayas, 1 Mindanao)
Grand	September 23, 2005 (Friday) Entries for Feb. 4 - Aug. 31, 2005	**National:** • ***One (1) Isuzu Trooper UBR AT*** **Regional:** • Four (4) Cash Prizes worth P1,000,000 each to be drawn from each region (1 Metro Manila, 1 Luzon, 1 Visayas, 1 Mindanao)

8. All raffle numbers generated from February 4, 2005 to August 31, 2005 are included in the Grand Draw. Raffle draw winners will be electronically drawn. All draws will be held at 4:00 p.m., at the RCBC Plaza, 6819 Ayala Ave., Makati City 0727. Any change in time and venue will have notification at branches of RCBC and RCBC Savings Bank.

9. All prizes are tax-paid. All prizes are non-transferable and are not convertible to cash.

10. All employees of RCBC and RCBC Savings Bank, their subsidiaries and advertising/promotions agencies, and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from this promo.

11. Winners will be notified through registered mail sent to the address indicated on their customer information file; and their names published in a leading newspaper.

12. Winners must agree to have their names, addresses, and photos included in winners advertisements and other related materials.

For more details, get promo leaflet at the branch nearest you.
Or call 894-9577.

RCBC
RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION
A YGC Member

RCBC
Savings Bank
A YGC Member

MEMBER Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation
Maximum Deposit Insurance for each Depositor PhP 250,000.

BancNet

Per DTI-NCR Permit No 0559 Series of 2005

Trust placements are not covered by PDIC. Investor's safeguards are governed by Monetary Board Resolution Regulation 1065 (BSP Regulation on Trust). Due to the nature of investment, potential yield cannot be guaranteed

Malayan Insurance Co., Inc. • RCBC • Grepalife • Lifetime Plans, Inc. • House of Investments, Inc. • Bankard, Inc. • AY Foundation, Inc. • Honda Cars Quezon City, Manila, Kalookan • Isuzu Manila • EEI Corporation • Mapua Institute of Technology and 21 other companies as one to better serve our customers.

www.ygc.com.ph

YGC
Together We Can Do More For You.

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph

BUSINESS Monday Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Erstwhile entrepreneur out to put messy house in order

ALFONSO Cusi worked and saved 17 years to fulfill a dream to go on his own and succeeds. Now he has the Herculean task of opening a new terminal that is mired in legal impediments and political tug-of-war.

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

NOT much has been reported about the career beginnings of Manila International Airport Authority general manager Alfonso Cusi but a morning chat with him reveals quite an interesting character.

If Malacañang has been termed a snake pit, then MIAA is probably the lion's den. You learn to feed the lions, or they will eat you alive.

While MIAA is in charge of all international airport facilities, it hosts other government agencies that are among the most prone to corruption in the country—the bureaus of immigration and customs. Even the "watchdog" of these agencies is not above temptation.

But to Cusi, the President called and, like any citizen of the country, one must respond.

The biggest task facing Cusi is the opening of Naia 3 by June this year. This despite pending legal impediments and some reluctant airline folks to fast track their transfer to the new facility; and a general uneasiness among some quarters to institute change.

But Cusi is confident they will open by June. His task is to orchestrate several groups to ensure that all will work toward the same goal. A tough act for a man who always dreamed of being on his own.

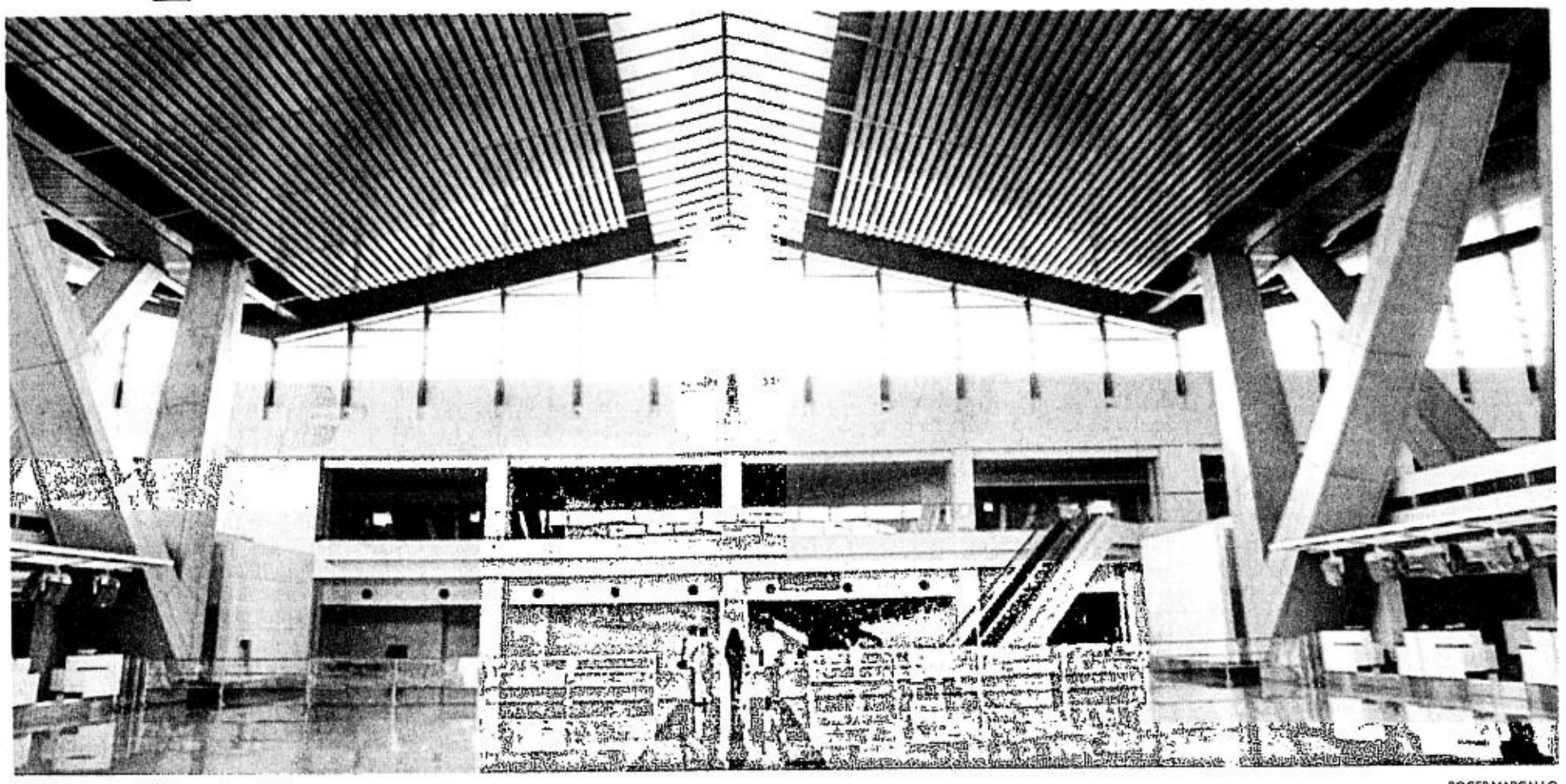
One clue to the persona of Cusi is his obsession with the cleanliness of the toilets in the international airports. Unfortunately even this seemingly mundane task is not an easy one to do. He has had to battle some people who prefer the drains and the toilets not to work as money could be made when there are problems, than when the pipes are working.

This is part of the reason MIAA decided to bid out the management of the maintenance of the international airports. Cusi says it takes a certain system to achieve proper cleaning and maintenance and they hope the group that wins the bidding will be able to train MIAA personnel in this.

His vision is to make the toilets like some of those in the country's malls. "Thousands of people use the toilets, yet they are able to keep them clean," he says.

Cusi knows the value of clean

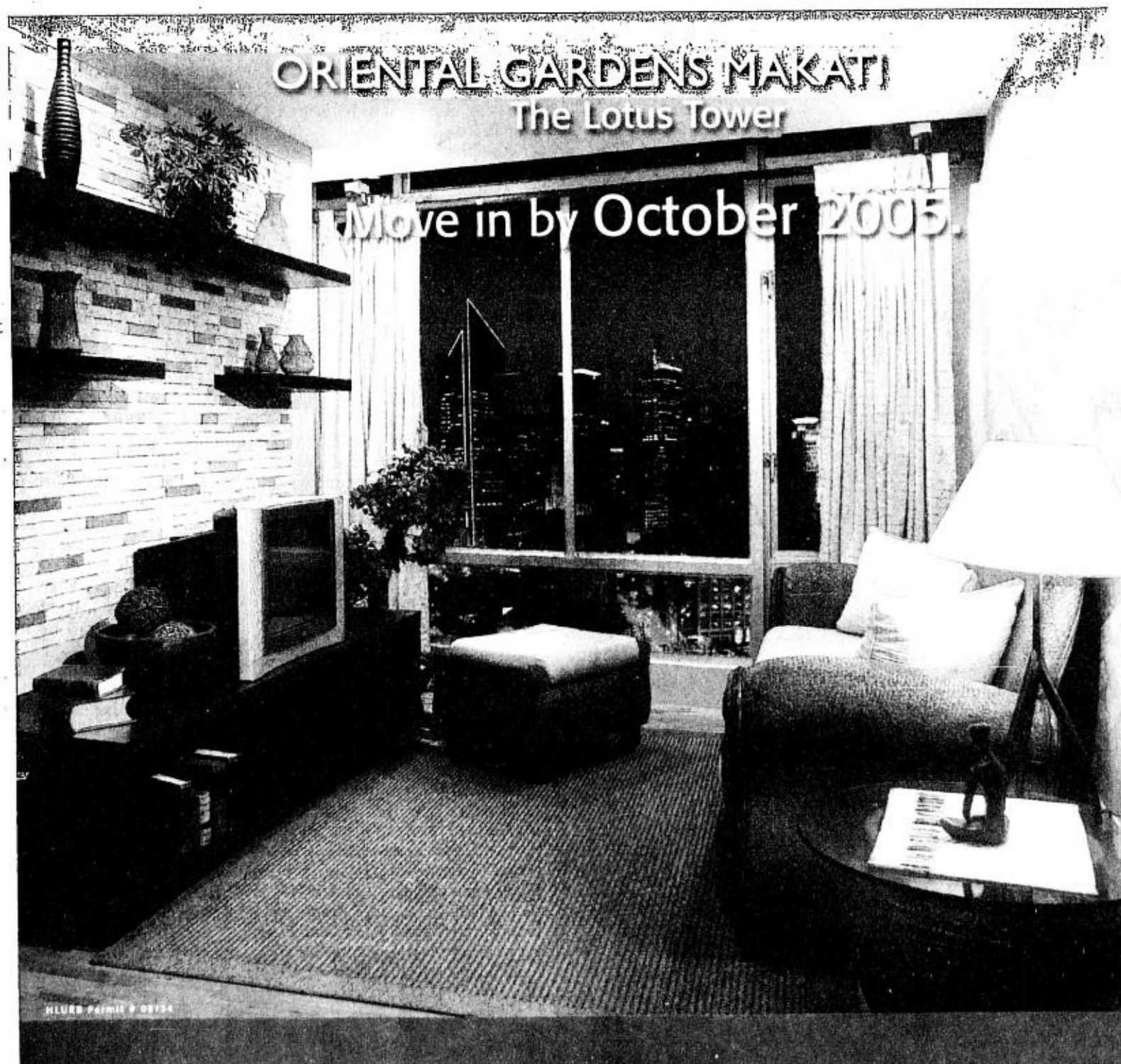
ERSTWHILE / B3



NAIA Terminal 3 departure lobby

ROGER MARGALLO

NEW terminal can host 28 aircraft at a time.



View: spectacular.
Location: central.
Amenities: complete.
Price: surprising.

A Makati condominium
for only ₱13,888 a month!

Incomparably affordable for the best location in town.

A plush residential haven blossoming close to the heart of the Central Business District.

The Lotus Tower
at Oriental Gardens Makati.

Move in with just a 20% down payment.
And when you come home, you'll find the many luxurious amenities ready and waiting.

It's time to make your move.
Call now – and complete the picture.

For more information, call now at
830-0000 or 886-0000.

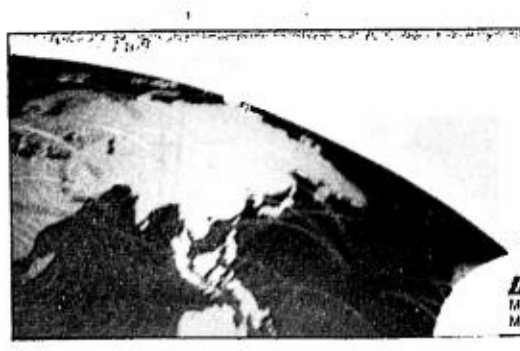
RESERVE NOW to qualify for a trip to HK, Singapore, or Shanghai! Offer valid till February 28, 2005.
* See flyers for details.

ORIENTAL GARDENS
MAKATI
the Executive Residential Condo
Don Chino Roces Avenue, near Buendia Avenue, Makati City

HLURB Permit # 08154

A member of the Metrobank Group

Taking Life Higher. FEDERALAND



Maybank, One Of Asia's Best Banks - Financial Times

• Over $47 billion in group assets • One of the top 20 banks in Asia

MEGALINK
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation.
Maximum Deposit Insurance of Each Depositor P250,000

For the Branch nearest you, call 521-7451. Or visit us at www.maybank2u.com

Maybank

Sunrise? Sunset?

MAPPING THE FUTURE

Mario Antonio G. Lopez and Leah A. Umali

LAST Nov. 11, 2004, the AIM Policy Center held a round table discussion on improving competitiveness and productivity of the coconut products sector, with particular focus on virgin coconut oil, coco fiber and coco bio-diesel.

Over two decades ago, when we thought only of coconut oil and its traditional uses, i.e., cooking, and coco fiber, we considered the coconut industry as a "sunset" industry.

We also bought the whole soybean oil industry yarn on how harmful coconut and palm oils were to human health.

Fortunately since then, we have learned much more about health, LDL, HDL and cholesterol. We also got more information on how coconut oil can be used as a fuel substitute.

These information surfaced during the discussions, and put coconut oil under a new light.

Given that prices of diesel oil are expected to go up, diesel substitutes and additives such as coco-diesel have become viable. A one-percent coco bio-diesel blend can help us save as much as $28.7 million a year of oil imports.

And with the rising cost of plastics raw materials, there seems to be a shift back to natural fibers for such items as ropes and twines, and for matting such as those used for holding soil to arrest erosion or hold back sand dunes.

With the surge in concern for the global environment and reforestation, demand for these products should go up.

And virgin coconut oil (VCO) with its high laureic acid content, according to respected medical researchers like Dr. Conrado Dayrit, may serve as an effective deterrent against SARS because it breaks down the protective coating of these viruses.

These factors led to a surge in demand for VCO, both here and abroad, and consequently, increased production. Demand for virgin coconut oil in China alone has been estimated to be as high as 100T metric tons per month. Untapped markets include Canada, Europe and Japan. These prospects represent a potential increase in export earnings.

The problem, however, is that the supply of mature coconuts cannot cope with the demand. There is great need to increase farm productivity.

Quality standard for virgin coconut oil have also not been clearly set, and poses a potential problem for marketing. The Philippine Coconut Authority is collaborating with other government agencies and private associations to set definite standards for VCO to ensure quality.

The lack of raw materials also affects the production of bio-diesel and coconut fiber. Only 0.6 percent of our total coco husk production is processed. Most go to waste or is used as fuel by our rural poor.

But with the proper policy framework and a rationalized operating system, appropriate technology and potentially abundant raw materials, and the increasing demand for natural fiber, we may acquire that competitive edge and dominate the Asian market.

Why should the government prioritize the development of the coconut industry? Consider the following facts.

An estimated 25 million Filipinos, mostly in the rural areas, directly or indirectly depend on coconuts for a living.

Most of them live below the poverty line (estimated at $2.00 per day for a family of six or less than P112.50 a day for a family of six or P18.75 per person, per day).

The average annual income derived per hectare of coconut farmland is P10,000 (P833.33 per month, per hectare). Many of these families live on very small land parcels of about two hectares each.

This means an annual income of P20,000.00 per family from coconuts (P1,666.67 per month, or P55.56 per day, per family).

Even if they augment this meager amount with other sources of income (vegetable and fruit farming, some animal husbandry, fishing, or manual labor), given their limited resources and access to good markets, the family incomes remain small.

Their poverty is what drives them to mendicancy (often migrating to the urban centers in the process where they contribute to squatting, the increasing presence of beggars and even petty crimes). Many resort to banditry. Others become the communist rebels and Muslim secessionists.

We have ignored their deep-rooted problems—to which many of us have unwittingly contributed—for far too long. We need to make the promise of a better tomorrow real.

The coconut industry, it seems, offers a good starting point to help address these problems. What will it take to unlike the potentials in coco diesel fuel, virgin coconut oil and coco fiber?

As of the latest count, 3.2 million hectares or 27 percent of our total agricultural lands are coconut lands. Around 2.2 million of these are coconut monocropped and ought to be inter-cropped with high-value crops, such as citrus and mango hybrids.

The increased land fertility will contribute to increasing the yield of nuts per tree per year.

The PCA plans to introduce intercropping to at least half of the monocropped lands in the next few years (around 150,000 ha), and open up new areas to increase copra production from 2.2 million metric tons to 4.4 million metric tons by 2006, and 6 million metric tons by 2010, and increase average annual family income from P10,000/ha/year to P50,000/ha/year, and to P100,000/ha/year by 2010 from the coconuts alone, if their potentials are realized.

With appropriate technology available (processing plants, research and development laboratories with good, adequately paid scientists); and infrastructure support (reliable and cheap transport, cheap communication, good export market representation); the abundance of raw materials, and the increasing demand for natural fiber, there is a distinct probability that the Philippines will dominate the Asian market.

Our coco bio-diesel exceeded Philippine national quality standards (PNS) for diesel fuel. It also surpassed the features of high quality low sulfur diesel of Korea and Japan.

In fact, there have been inquiries into our coco-diesel from these two countries.

What prevents us from realizing these potentials? Many things.

Members of the MAP Agribusiness and Countryside Development Committee and the MAP Agribusiness for Countryside Development Foundation were introduced to coco-diesel two to three years ago.

Many members tried it and found the results quite satisfactory. Some tried up to 2 percent mix. There was less black exhaust. The problem these three years has been getting a reliable supply.

In the case of coconut oil, standards need to be enforced to ensure reliable high quality at more reasonable prices. We don't want another nata de coco fiasco.

For coco fiber, the problems are more complex. We will need to develop a collection and transport system for coco husks that will not increase the prices of raw materials. We will need processing plants close to the sources to reduce cost of transport for this high volume-relatively low value raw material.

We will also need research and development in several areas. These include the traditional agriculture aspect of growing coconuts; the processing of the meat, and the by-products; and research on global markets for existing and possible products using the raw materials we produce.

We have the most of the needed human resources for these tasks—management, technological and scientific professionals and competent entrepreneurs.

What we will require are the policy framework and the financing to start the projects. Our legislators and policy makers and implementers in the executive branch can prove their sincerity and political will by putting together these needed packages soon.

(This article reflects the personal opinion of the authors and does not reflect the official stand of the Management Association of the Philippines. Prof. Mario Antonio Lopez is professor of Asian Institute of Management and co-chair of the MAP Management Development Committee. Leah A. Umali is program manager for the Global Competitiveness Program at AIM Policy Center. Feedback at map@globenet.com.ph.)

Philippine rescue dogs' best friend is a British bank

DEMONSTRATING its global commitment to saving human lives, UK-based Standard Chartered recently turned over P 1.1 million as an initial commitment to the full operation of a search and rescue program in the country in partnership with K9 Search and Rescue Association Inc. Philippines.

In a media gathering, Standard Chartered Bank chief executive officer Simon Morris presented the donation to Renee Speltz, founding chair of K9 Search and Rescue Association Inc. Philippines.

Attending the event was Makati Councilor Jejomar Erwin Binay Jr., president of K9 Search and Rescue Association.

Also present were K9 SAR partners Serge Grynkewich II, SOS international managing director for the Philippines; Robert Quelen, deputy managing director of EON, and Jeorge San Agustin of KPMG auditing firm.

Aside from Standard Chartered Bank, K9 Search and Rescue Program is supported by the Philippine Air Force, National Disaster Coordinating Council, Philippine Coast Guard, Philippine Coast Guard Auxilliary, International SOS Philippines Medical Assistance Co., Motoroloa, EON and Philippine Airlines.

The bank is concerned with the country's location as one prone to natural disasters. It cites the recent landslides in Quezon province where search and rescue operations would have saved more human lives if additional facilities and support systems had been available.

The bank more than recognizes the scale and international impact of the recent tsunami disaster.

One of the key elements in an efficient and powerful search and rescue operation is the support of trained dogs teamed with equally trained handlers. But like most of its Asian neighbors, the Philippines has no official canine search and rescue facilities for natural calamities.

"We can help save lives by supporting K9 Search and Rescue. If we help to save one Filipino life then it will have been worthwhile. We cannot afford to merely stare at statistics reporting the loss of human lives, when we can do so much to save them with concerted effort," said Morris.

"Our aim is to help the funding of sustainable initiatives that run beyond short-term relief work. Rather, we are strongly committed to be a long-term corporate partner in the tasks of training, educating, and actually serving the communities, and help them reestablish their structures and way of life in some of the worst-hit areas."

Morris said the P1.1 million was an initial contribution to the K9 Search and Rescue Association Inc. whose capabilities cover saving human lives in disasters like earthquakes, floods, mudslides/landslides, fires, urban rescue, while saving victims of drowning, aircraft crashes, and mountain climbing/trekking mishaps.

Currently, there are no, or very limited, K9 search and rescue teams in Southeast Asia. Canine search and rescue training headquarters in the United States, United Kingdom and Australia provide good models.

Because this is the first and only K9 search and rescue group in the Philippines, and due to the country's geographical location, it is ready to respond to all emergency calls in the country, as well as the region.

Renee Speltz, founding chair of the non-profit K9 Search and Rescue Association Inc., said:

"I am deeply grateful that Standard Chartered Bank shares our passion and commitment to save human lives. We cannot ask for a better partner than this courageous multinational giant. We are confident that the mission and goals we have set for the year and in the long term will steer in course with the bank's global support.

STANDARD Chartered Bank CEO Simon Morris (petting dog) with the K9 Search and Rescue Association members.

The easy solution to your business balancing act.

Manage your business and your finances like a Certified Public Accountant. All it takes is a user-friendly package to create a small system in your business that automates repetitive accounting tasks. Introducing **MYOB**, an award-winning finance and accounting software solution for your accounting needs. Now you can **Mind Your Own Business**. Your company now lies in your hands! With **MYOB**, not only can you balance your financial statements... you can balance your time as well.

Business Basics Accounting Premier

Distributed by:
BCS Systems & Technology, Inc.
G/F H&M Building, 13-15 Linaw Street, Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City, Philippines
Phone: (632) 448-5128 to 34 Fax: (632) 712-6446 Email: myob@bcsstl.com

Now's your chance to **Mind Your Own Business** with **MYOB!**

Sign up now for a Free Trial Version or attend our Free Advantage Workshop! Just call (632) 448-5128 to 34 or fax this form to (632) 712 6440.

Name:_____
Address:_____
Tel. No.:_____ Fax No.:_____ Mobile No.:_____
Email Address:_____ Occupation:_____ Company Name:_____
Office Address:_____
Office Tel. No.:_____ Office Fax No.:_____

MYOB
Mind Your Own Business. Smarter.
www.myob.com

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Starting early

A LEADER'S WAY

John C. Maxwell

ON JAN. 14, 2003, Pat Summitt reached a milestone few basketball coaches—male or female—could ever hope to achieve: She won the 800th game of her coaching career. At the time, the celebrated leader of the University of Tennessee Lady Vols was 50 years old.

Coach Summitt's success can be attributed to many factors—her knowledge of the game, her outstanding leadership skills, her competitive spirit, her ability to motivate her players and so on. But the fact that she reached the 800-win mark at a relatively young age is directly linked to one thing: She took over the reins of the Lady Volunteers basketball program when she was only 22 years old.

In other words, she started early.

Few people have the opportunity to attain the kind of public recognition that Coach Summitt has garnered during her illustrious career. But the starting-early principle we began discussing in the previous issue of this column applies to everyone, from aspiring head coaches to would-be corporate executives and everyone in between.

Last time, I began outlining a list of 10 practical things every young leader should do early in life—at least by the time he or she turns 40. We've covered five so far:

- Develop your philosophy of life.
- Know your strengths and weaknesses.
- Settle your family life.
- Determine your priorities.
- Get physically fit.

Those five items are enough to keep even the most diligent leader busy for quite awhile, but we're not done yet. Here is the rest of the list:

Learn your trade

Gain competence and confidence now; it's much easier to recover from mistakes and failures when you're young. Plus, the more skilled you are at what you do, the more opportunities you will have to grow in your career, influence other people, and pass what you've learned.

Pay the price

There is no success without sacrifice. If you succeed without sacrifice, it's because someone else who went before you paid the price. If you sacrifice and don't see success, then you can be sure someone who follows behind you will reap success.

Develop solid relationships

You can't have a rich life alone; the most rewarding experiences happen with other people. Don't put so much energy into work that you have nothing left for friends and family.

Prepare for the future

As I often say, options are one of your most precious commodities. There are no 100-percent guarantees, of course, but making wise financial choices now when it comes to spending, saving and investing greatly increases the likelihood that you will have options later in life.

Find purpose for your life

In my book, "Your Roadmap for Success," I define success as "knowing my purpose in life, growing to my maximum potential, and sowing seeds that benefit others." It's difficult to do the second and third parts of that equation if you don't have the first one settled, which is why it's so important to start looking for your life's purpose as early in your career as possible.

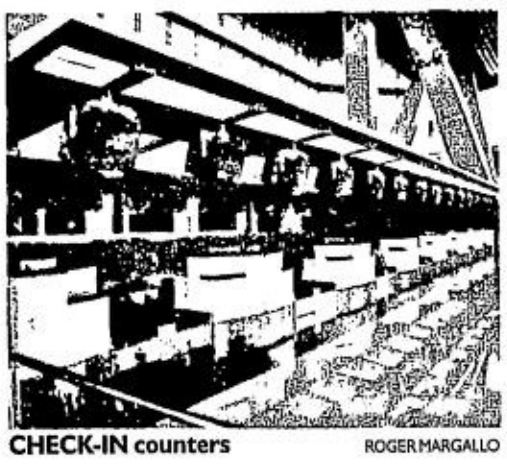
Working on these things—plus the five issues we talked about in the last issue—early in life improves your chances of success because it gives you a head start. Others may be smarter or more gifted, but if you begin sooner, you have an advantage. On top of that, as Pat Summitt's coaching career shows, starting early allows you to compound your success in much the same way you compound your money when you begin investing at a young age.

But what if you've already passed the 40-year milestone? What if your 40th birthday was so long ago you can hardly remember it? Does the starting-early principle apply to you?

Absolutely. Take it from Dianne Osbourne, who began selling Mary Kay cosmetics when she was 60 years old. After hearing me speak about starting early, she sent me a note that said, "I start early in the month, early in the week, early in the day, because I see the end in view and it's chasing me."

She was making up for lost time, and so can you. If you haven't settled the 10 issues I described above, don't waste another day. I don't care if you're 45 or 65—it's not too late to start. As one of my favorite quotes about people who don't get started early puts it, "Though you cannot go back and make a brand new start, my friend, anybody can start from now and make a brand new end!"

Send your comments or questions to Dr Maxwell c/o slvguru@pldtDSL.net



CHECK-IN counters ROGER MARGALLO

Erstwhile entrepreneur out to put messy house in order

From page B1

bathrooms having run his own firms.

After working 17 years with the Aboitiz group, he decided to strike out on his own. Cusi is the founder of the Starlite Group of Companies which include Starlite Ferry Inc., Starlight Maritime Inc. and Starlite Cargo Xpress Inc.

He says it took him almost two decades to save enough money to go off on his own. But he always wanted to. It cost him about P1 million to set up the business.

Back in high school, his father instilled in him the value of entrepreneurship.

He says he went into an assortment of ventures from selling eggs to immediately offering for sale a pen a classmate admired. When he was third year college he went into the distributorship of deodorizers.

"If you're a person without money, you always wonder how you can raise capital. You find opportunities," Cusi says.

Which is why he grabbed at what ever potential money making venture he came across. But while he longed so much to go into business on his own, lack of capital prevented him from doing so. His choice was employment which he tackled.

His first stint with government was as head of the Philippine Ports Authority. Having been involved in a business which PPA regulates, Cusi was of course not spared the intrigues. He was moved to MIAA just last August and today is committed to open the controversial Naia-3 in four months.

"My focus these days is to put the house in order and tomove forward Terminal 3," he says.

To Cusi opening the new terminal is crucial to the growth of the Philippine economy.

"We are being left behind by our neighbors and this is affecting our economy. We find the urgency to open as soon as possible. There is a real urgency," Cusi states.

Plans on what to do with the Naia-1 terminal are not yet final. Cusi says he is of the mindset now to open it to proposals from interested parties. Terminal 3 has a capacity of 13 million passengers a year, 28 aircraft at a time.

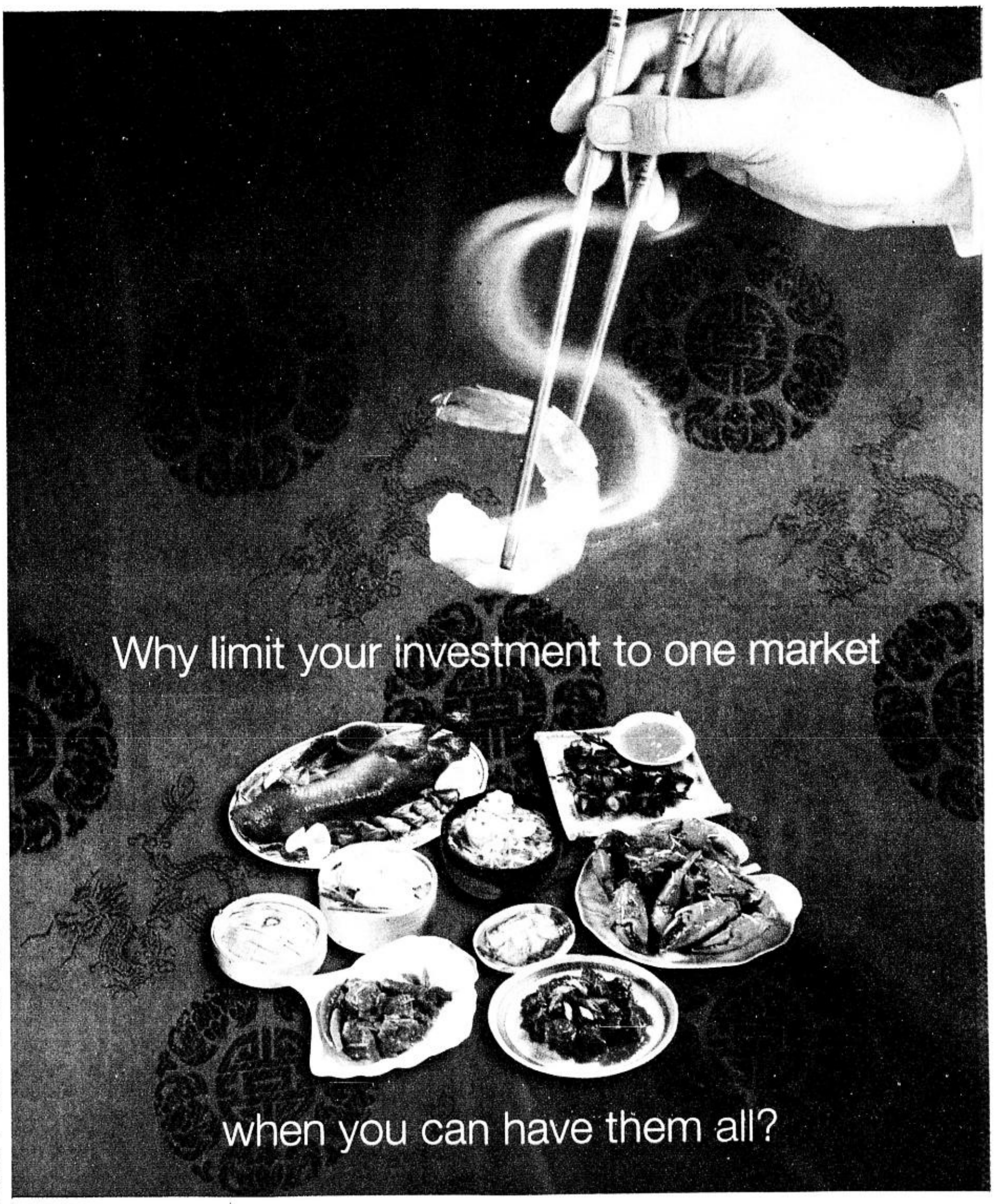
Part of MIAA task is to determine there are no financial defects in the new terminal.

MIAA officials took Business Monday on a tour of the new terminal and inventory was finalized last week. The concessionaires however have yet to be negotiated with. The new terminal is something many Filipinos will no longer be embarrassed about.

Terminal I although only 20 years old, has been badly maintained that it has deteriorated beyond its years. An eight year old boy was seen tugging at his father, pulling him to a corner in the airport and telling him, "Look at that, it's so dirty. And you want to live in this country?"

Cusi acknowledges there is much to be done to improve Terminal I but it may have to wait in favor of the new terminal and will depend on the final plans for it. As to Naia-II or the Centennial 2, the plans are not yet final whether it will be converted into the domestic airport or remain exclusively for Philippine Airlines.

Meantime, asked why he gave up his businesses in favor of a P30,000 a month job, Cusi simply states: "While outside the government, we complain a lot, and we criticize. It's very hard to be on the other side. I tell my people we complain about the situation now we can do something."



METRODOLLAR Asian Bond Fund

Have a taste of the tiger economies. The MetroDollar Asian Bond Fund gives you access to investment-grade Asian sovereign and corporate fixed-income securities which include those of Hong Kong, China, Singapore, Korea, Malaysia, and Thailand. With the growth and deregulation of these Asian markets, you enjoy lower risks, higher potential returns! Invest now and savor the rewards of a good investment.

Minimum Investment: US$50,000

METROBANK TRUST BANKING
Tel. No.: 580-9552 to 59, 858-8012 to 14 / E-mail. tbg@metrobank.com.ph

Trust Participation is not a deposit and not covered by PDIC. Any income and loss is for the account of the Trustor. The bank is not liable for losses unless proven to be negligent. Investors' safeguard is governed by MB Res no 1005 (BSP Regulation on Trust). Due to nature of investment, potential yield cannot be guaranteed. The Declaration of Trust of the Fund is available at the principal office of the trustee upon request

You're in good hands with METROBANK

Over 800 domestic and international branches, offices and subsidiaries. Head Office: Metrobank Plaza, Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave., Makati City; Web Page: www.metrobank.com.ph

INDONESIA, HONG KONG, THAILAND TARGETED

Mobile marketing pioneer plans to export models

GLOBAL Wireless Connections (GWC), the country's leader in mobile marketing, sees great potential to in pushing mobile marketing in Asia. With the success of mobile marketing in the Philippines as shown by the increase in the number of companies utilizing mobile phone technology in promoting their businesses, mobile marketing has indeed become a potent marketing tool.

More and more companies are now promoting their businesses though various mobile phone content such as SMS, MMS, video streaming, ringtones, caller tunes and logos.

"I believe that the Philippines can be the pioneer in Asia when it comes to mobile marketing, says Arthur Policarpio, GWC chief operating officer. "We are the SMS capital of the world and of Asia, and most of the mobile marketing concepts, models and products we have developed here have not yet been done outside the country. We believe in the marketing power of our concepts and we are planning to export some of our mobile marketing models to other countries this year, specifically to Indonesia, Hong Kong, Thailand and soon to the United States, adds Policarpio.

Not long ago, the mobile phone was merely used to make calls; then, it became instantly and highly popular for sending text messages or SMS. Now, the mobile phone has developed into an effective marketing medium for innovative companies.

For now, the most widely used is SMS or "Short Message Service" because of its cost-efficiency and pervasiveness. MMS or "Multimedia Messaging Service" is an emerging medium and will soon reach its peak when the number of MMS-enabled handsets increases.

Not just an industry leader in mobile marketing, GWC, also a content and services provider, has its own share of trade's firsts. Among its many firsts is the "text-raffle concept, which is now making waves in the marketing arena. GWC launched the first text promo with the "Instant Load" concept, via the Biogesic for Kids' "Lagnat Alis, Load Bilis" Promo. (Unilab is actually carrying-over this concept to two of their other brands, via the Enervon E&Zinc Power Load Promo and pH Care Scratch, Text N' Get Loaded Promo). GWC is also the first to implement a mobile-enabled discount club for women, the Smart Buddy GIRLtxt. It also executed the first text promos of two prestigious multinational companies, JCB and Western Union Money Transfer. It has likewise handled the mobile marketing campaigns of multinational companies such as Unilever, San Miguel Corp., Western Union, JCB International, Motorola plus prominent clients such as United Laboratories, Bankard, DIWA Publishing, among many others. Indeed, GWC constantly innovates the concept of mobile marketing to adapt to its clients' relentless need for change, freshness and novelty.

GLOBAL Wireless Connections founders Arthur Policarpio and Jeremy Obial

GWC's edge lies in its capability to implement a mobile marketing campaign "end-to-end"—from concept development, to software development, database management, securing of permits, marketing plan preparation and implementation, and logistics.

"Companies who tap us for their marketing needs not only get the benefit of our in-depth experience in this field, they get the full range of our services and they no longer have to worry about other operations aspects of the project. All they have to do is give us a brand or project brief and from there, we take the project all the way from concept stage to implementation stage," adds Policarpio.

"We are proud of the mobile marketing models we have conceptualized and implemented for our various clients in the country. We feel that there is a great potential for mobile marketing abroad and that's what we intend to pursue," ends Policarpio.

In the 1950s and early 60s, the Philippine economy was second largest in Asia.

Since then, Asia's first democracy has been left behind by its neighbors.

What happened exactly? - SyCip

DRIVEN: How to Make it in Philippine Business

[Class '1971, Asian Institute of Management]

DRIVEN: How To Make It In Philippine Business
Edited by Jessica Zafra
Editorial co-chairs: Francisco H. Barcelon and Antonio R. Samson
Design Committee: Art Maceda, Rene Valencia and Rio Alaras
Illustrated by Ige Ramos

Available in Powerbooks and selected National Bookstore outlets

Opportunity knocks but once.

JOB Market

Read in every Tuesday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer

Guide to proper mobile phone care

AT ONE of the Nokia Care service counters. The phone firm advises against taking your phone to a fly-by-night shop which might offer much cheaper service and phone parts but personnel training is not guaranteed.

IN AN age where the cell phone is the most practical way to stay connected to everyone and everything around us, it is important to keep it in tip-top shape.

Taking your mobile phone to a fly-by-night shop for repair may be risky. They could offer much cheaper services and phone parts but the personnel training are not guaranteed so the phone actually getting repaired remains uncertain.

When having a mobile phone repaired one must consider the quality of the parts used, the knowledge of the technician repairing it, and the good reputation of the service center doing it.

Your mobile phone deserves the best attention it can get. And fortunately, there is in fact an establishment over the years that has gained a trusty reputation for being a reliable service center for mobile phone repair.

Nokia brings genuine and authorized mobile phone repair to all Nokia users with its Nokia Care service center.

For more than five years now, Nokia Care has been offering its Nokia clients a wide array of services from cosmetic replacements, cost inquiries, handset repairs, to the sale of original Nokia accessories.

At Nokia Care, well-trained technical teams attend to your Nokia mobile phone's needs. Nokia specially trains each technician in technical troubleshooting, soldering, schematic reading, and block diagram reading skills.

"At Nokia Care, we train the personnel and only use genuine Nokia spare parts, tools, and equipment," said Jay Exconde, head of Nokia after market services. "The technicians are also kept abreast with the latest technologies in the mobile phone industry."

Serious damage to a Nokia mobile phone take an average of one to two days to be repaired, free if the phone is still under warranty, and a standard fee is charged for those phones that have exceeded its warranty.

The fee also depends whether a part needs to be replaced. Cosmetic replacements and other minor problems only takes an hour.

"We give three months service warranty for repaired non-warranty or out-warranty Nokia phones," he added.

Currently, there are 19 walk-in service centers in the Metro Manila area as well as in Baguio, Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, Davao, Iloilo, Lucena, and Pampanga. Nokia plans to expand its mobile phone repair services to the provincial areas in the near future, bringing the best service and top quality to all Nokia mobile phone users.

Authorized Nokia Care service centers in Metro Manila can be located at Digital Exchange, Glorietta 3, Greenbelt 1; Festival Super Mall, Alabang; SM City North Edsa, Tomas Morato, Ali Mall, Cubao; and at Semicon stores in SM Manila, SM Megamall, SM Southmall, and SM Fairview.

How do you know you're good, if you don't know what the others are doing?

JOIN THE IABC Gold Quill AWARDS PHILIPPINES 2005

Awards Night: March 10, 2005
Ayala Museum, Makati City

Media Partner: INQUIRER

Absolute deadline for entries: February 21, 2005
Submit to new IABC office at Penthouse 9, Manila Bank Bldg., Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Tel.: 892-9592 email:info@iabc.com.ph cell nos. 09196406446 / 09202548281

Talk on math of real estate set

THE MATHEMATICS and techniques of real estate investment are constantly undergoing advancement. With the continuous development of new tools, faster and more accurate methods of computation are made available. With these new tools, it is now much easier and faster to undertake real estate computations such as but not limited to a deeper investment analysis. Unfortunately, many real estate developers and investors who are still not aware or updated on this, are failing to modernize and make use of these new developments, and sad to say, setting themselves behind the others.

To level the playing field, Urban Institute of Real Estate will conduct a seminar on "Mathematics of Real Estate Investment" on Feb. 26, 1:30 to 6 p.m. at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) Conference Center, Benavidez Street cor. Trasierra Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City

The four-hour lecture will cover explanation and sample problems on interest formulas, cash flow diagrams, present & future Value, sinking fund, equal periodic payment, graduated periodic payments & its application to various real estate situations, how to prepare tables of value using computer and how to use table of values, calculators & computers in computing real estate interest problems, mathematics of the different method of return analysis like Net Present Value & Internal Rate of Return method & External Rate of Return (ERR) method. Participants can also avail of free computerized copies of table of values of the different interest factors.

Lecturer is Enrico S. Cruz, an engineer, who is a licensed real estate consultant and a real estate fellow and has more than three decades of working experience in engineering, construction, real estate development and education. He placed first in the real estate appraiser's board examinations in 1994 and 8th in the real estate brokers board examination in 1988.

Urban is also conducting other seminars which can be attended separately, on the same time and venue as follows: Feb. 16—Investing in Real Estate: Opportunities, Techniques & What are Needed to Learn before Investing; Feb. 17—Property Development and HLURB Rules And Regulations; Feb. 18—Real Estate Finance and Investment Analysis; Feb 19—Joint Ventures and Syndications for Real Estate Projects; Feb 21—Legal Aspect of Sale, Mortgage and Lease with Contract Documentation and Registration; Property Management and Real Estate Appraisal; Feb. 22—A Complete Course on Installment Sales; Feb. 23—How to Start and Manage A Successful Real Estate Brokerage Company; Feb. 24—Property Management and Real Estate Appraisal; Feb. 25—Taxation Aspects of Real Estate Transactions & Property Assessment.

For inquiries, call 681-0928 or 0916-426-9174 or at email urbanet@pacific.net.ph.

Entrepreneur's meet, business fair set in March

IMAGE Plus Business Solutions (IPBS), a business event management company is proud presenting the 1st Philippine Entrepreneur Summit, back-to-back with the 3rd staging of the all-in-one business expo in the country—the Philippine Business Fair 2005 (PBF) "The ultimate business show from start-up to expansion."

The Summit is slated on March 3, 2005, at the Amorsolo Grand Ballroom, Holiday Inn Galleria Manila, Ortigas Center, Pasig City while the PBF 2005 is on March 4-6, 2005 (Friday to Sunday) at Mega Trade Hall 2, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

The PES will present inspiring success stories, tried and tested business formats, fine-tuned business models and in-depth discussion on business by the business experts and successful businessmen. This year, the PES will focus on the theme—"Entrepreneurship in the Context of Nation Building."

The speakers are businessmen who will tell their own experiences and the decisions they made that make them successful in business. The topics are: Becoming your own boss—Moving Forward from Being an Employee to Becoming a Businessman; Finance - Raising Additional Capital for Growth; Marketing—Becoming Known and Flying High; Management—Creating a Culture of Success; Family Business—Involving Your Families and Relatives in a Successful Business; and Success Story—Setting no Limit.

The PBF, on the other hand, has been a home for about 120 companies, a meeting place to more than 12,000 practicing and potential entrepreneurs and a center for government and nongovernment business organizations and prestigious academic business institutions. The event was a witness to over hundreds of deals closed generating an estimated amount of over P500 million worth of investment each year.

PES and PBF are designed to feature the step-by-step of starting-up, acquiring, and expanding businesses. These events open not just business opportunities available to Filipinos, but create as well the avenues to become entrepreneurs in easier ways.

For queries, call 532-2813, 533-6038, 534-4648 or (0916) 281-5090.

Panalo ka sa kakaibang negosyong ito!

Roland
The No. 1 Choice of Signmakers around the World.

SP-300

Cut your cost of sticker-making

Personalized Stickers | T-shirt Transfers | Product ID Labels | Merchandising Labels | Auto decals

Print single decal or bulk quantities at the click of a mouse!
- *NO EXTRA COST on die-cutting*
- *NO EXTRA COST on color separation*
- *NO EXTRA COST on lamination*

Exclusive Distributor:
Tgraf TEAM GRAPHICS
Tel: 726-3991 to 98 loc.204, 232, 218, 202, 203, 223 / Fax: 723-7951
Email: inquire@tgraf.com.ph
www.tgraf.com.ph

Other Tgraf business packages include: Xerox Phaser for Print-on-Demand, Roland Cutters for signmaking, Roland Soljet for banners and billboards, Roland EGX for engraving, Javelin for ID card printing, Word Studio digital photo enlargements, and more. Call us NOW and put yourself in a flash, new business!

Not your ordinary déjà vu

www.peugeot.com.ph

You have seen it before. Only, it's in your vivid imagination. You recall its distinct design, its luxurious feel as you step inside its domain. You see yourself taking this beauty for a spin as you let your mind trail off in a rush of excitement.

Now you can experience all that - top-down or however you please.

Dream no further. Let your imagination run wild in a Peugeot 206cc.

Engineered to be enjoyed

206 CC

PEUGEOT

817-9605 24 HOUR PEUGEOT ASSISTANCE

PEUGEOT SERVICE

Exclusive Distributor: AUTOFRANCE PHILIPPINES, INC. • Email: mypeugeot@peugeot.com.ph
Authorized Dealers: MAKATI • 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City Tels.: (632) 840 2736, (632) 894 2736 • **ORTIGAS** • O. N. Asia Premier Cars, Inc., 1 Opal Road corner ADB Ave., Ortigas Centre, Pasig City Tels.: (632) 637 0416, (632) 637 0417
CEBU • Cebuano Motors Corp., 21 A. S. Fortuna St., Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu Tels.: (032) 346 2724, (032) 343 7103
Authorized Service Center: 2230 Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City Tel.: (632) 840 2904

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

People, Events & Products

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2005

E-mail: pr_pep@inquirer.com.ph
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Aries Espinosa

Health & Lifestyle tackles sexual health

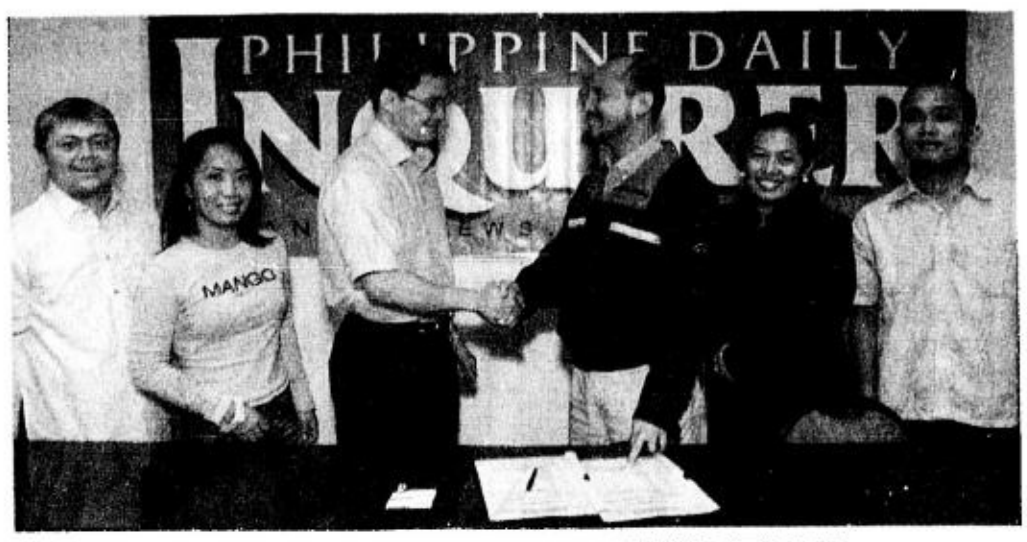
COMMERCIAL and ramp model Isabel Roces graces the cover of the February issue of Health & Lifestyle, a monthly full-color glossy health magazine read by doctors and other healthcare professionals, as well as managers in the pharmaceutical industry.

Isabel talks about her life, travels and career; and pitches her advocacy of vegetarianism, not only for health reasons but because she loves animals so much and cannot imagine eating any of them.

Special features for this month include new developments in sexual health; and major issues are tackled which provide answers to intriguing questions most people are too shy to ask. The magazine, which boasts of an impressive list of medical advisers considered to be among the who's who in Philippine medicine, provides health updates written in a reader-friendly style, as well as lifestyle articles that promote holistic healthy practices.

The advocacy of the magazine is to promote a healthy lifestyle and to picture it as something that not only prevents common medical problems and prolong life, but as something that can improve the quality of life and is fun doing.

Grab a copy and find out how you can feel and be at your best during this season of love. The magazine is available at National Bookstore branches and selected magazine stands nationwide. Subscribe now and get a free Bioessence gift certificate. Offer is good until supplies last. Call 892-0723 or 24 or e-mail sales@fame.ph.



INQUIRER TV GUIDE PARTNERS WITH CLICKTHECITY.COM

The Philippine Daily Inquirer partners with ClicktheCity.com in providing readers with daily schedules of their favorite TV shows through the Inquirer TV Guide. The TV Guide is published in the Entertainment/Sports Section. Shown from left are Gary Libby, Imee Alcantara, ClicktheCity GM Raul Calalang Jr, Inquirer SVP David O. Valdes, Dara David and Ged S. Ventura.

Salalima leads Bedan awardees

GLOBE executive Rodolfo A. Salalima will be among the outstanding Bedans who will be honored on the occasion of the 81st founding anniversary of the San Beda College Alumni Association. The event will take place during the Red and White Ball on Feb. 17, Thursday, 6 p.m. at the NBC Tent, Bonifacio Global City.

Salalima is being cited for his outstanding service in the field of law. Other prominent Bedans who will receive the Distinguished Bedan Awards are brothers Robert Dean Barbers (Philippine Tourism Authority) and Robert Lyndon Barbers (Governor of Surigao del Norte) leading the Most Distinguished Bedan awardees. Other awardees are Ricardo Cuna (entrepreneurship), James Sy (sports service), Leonardo Monteverde (business),

SALALIMA

Henry Lee Chan (business and finance), Edilberto Concepcion (medicine), Eduardo Coseteng (car racing), Gonzalo Duque (education), Ramon Posadas (electric cooperative), and Mayor Genaro Mendoza (public service).

The Red and White Ball will also elevate to the first-ever San Beda Hall of Fame in Profession the late Fernando Poe Jr (Philippine cinema), Andrew Gotianun (business and industry), the late Jesus Cabarrus (mining) and the late Don Antonio Roxas Chua (banking industry).

The Ramon V. Mitra Award for Distinction will be given this year to Rep. Jose Carlos Lacson. The award, named in honor of the late former House of Representatives Speaker Ramon V. Mitra, is given annually to a Bedan legislator who has authored a significant number of important laws that improved the quality of lives of many Filipinos.

The awardees best epitomize and exemplify the Benedictine principles of "Ora et labora" and deserve the Bedan community's and the Filipino people's highest praise and appreciation.

AUSTRALIA NATIONAL DAY

The Australian Embassy celebrated its National Day Jan. 26 at the residence of the Ambassador in Cambridge Circle, North Forbes Park, Makati City. Shown are, from left, Leo Dominguez, Delia Albert, former Foreign Affairs Secretary, Angeles 'Toto' Santocildes, Ambassador Ruth Pearce, former Sen. Leticia Ramos Shahani, and lawyer Avelino Cruz, National Defense Secretary. The event was attended by members of the diplomatic corps, government officials, media, and friends of the embassy.

BTS Clips

Valentine at the Inn

HOLIDAY Inn Resort Clark Field invites you to experience "My Valentine at the Inn" and share your romantic moments on Feb. 14 and 15. For only P4,400+ for a standard room accommodation, or P5,400+ for a junior suite accommodation for two persons, you can enjoy inclusions of a long-stemmed rose for your lady, relish sweet Valentine petit fours, savor a bottle of wine (for the first 10 guaranteed bookers) and romance in a Valentine candlelight dinner for two at the poolside. Celebrate a Valentine buffet dinner at its al fresco Poolside, 6 p.m. on Feb. 14 for only P795+ per person. For inquiries and reservations, call 845-1888 or (045)500-8000, or log on to www.holiday-inn.com/hotels/clarkfield.

'From the Heart'

INTERCONTINENTAL Hotels Group, the world's largest and most global hotel company, announced recently that it would launch a global tsunami relief initiative, "From the Heart", to drive donations for the survivors of the recent tsunami tragedy in South Asia. "From the Heart" kicks off today and lasts for a week. During this period, participating hotels of InterContinental Hotels Group will be encouraging their guests to make a donation of $2 or more per stay to Unicef's tsunami relief funds. For each $2 guest donation, participating hotels will match this up with an equivalent contribution. "From the Heart" has the potential to raise more than $1 million to tsunami relief donations. The Group owns, manages, leases or franchises, through various subsidiaries, more than 3,400 hotels and 530,000 guest rooms in nearly 100 countries and territories.

Watsons' MIL tours malls

WATSONS' sizzling Men In Love (MIL) endorsers have been making waves in Metro Manila with a series of mall tours in line with the personal care store's Fragrance Festival this February. The three hunks, Brent Javier, Mickey De Leon and Mikee Carrion, made their rounds for meet and greet sessions pitching the various fragrances and designer perfumes from the festival's participating consigners Lux Asia and L'Oreal. Brent, Mickey and Mikee gave free fragrance samples and willingly posed for photos, signed autographs, and even graciously allowed the shoppers to give them admiring kisses. Special offers are also being given to consumers during the festival, which runs until Feb. 16. Discounts of up to 50 percent on personal care items, 10 to 15 percent off on selected fragrances such as Calvin Klein & Romance by Ralph Lauren and free gifts are also up for grabs. Catch your favorite MIL promoting Watsons' Fragrance Festival at The Enterprise building in Makati on Feb. 14.

Cherry Foodarama grand draw

THE COUNTRY'S pioneering retail firm Cherry Foodarama celebrates its continued successful business investment in the Philippines by giving Filipino consumers low-prices of local and imported goods. It marks its 52nd anniversary with a grand draw on Feb. 14 with the grand prize Chevrolet Aveo in each outlet celebrating its "Choice Ko 'To", plus Samsung home appliances to loyal customers at the following branches: Shaw Boulevard in Mandaluyong, Congressional Avenue, Quezon City, and Antipolo City. The draw will be graced by invited guests from the Department of Trade and Industry.

Gold Quill deadline today

ENTRIES to the Gold Quill Awards Philippines continue to pour in from the country's best PR and communication-oriented firms and professionals, prompting the organizers to extend the deadline until today, Feb. 14. "All entries we're seeing must be a labor of love, so we've picked Valentine's Day as the new and absolute deadline," said Bong Osorio, president of IABC Philippines and Campaigns Advocacy and PR Inc, who is the Gold Quill co-chair with Cosette Romero, managing director of Fleishmann-Hillard and IABC incoming president. Now on its fourth year, the Gold Quill Awards are given by an independent panel of executives chosen for their communication expertise and integrity, rather than prominence in other fields. The Awards Night will be held at the new Ayala Museum on March 11. Entry forms may also be downloaded from www.iabc.com.ph. Call telefax 892-9592.

UPFI workshops set

THE UNIVERSITY of the Philippines Film Institute (UPFI) announces its first batch of workshops for 2005 to comprise of the following topics: Production Management Workshop and Audience Profiling and Ratings Workshop. The Production Management Workshop, scheduled for Feb. 11, 12, 18 and 19, presents an overview of the practices and procedures relating to the logistical and business side of film and video production. Audience Profiling and Ratings Workshop, slated for Feb. 24, 25 and 26, presents the basic tools for understanding audience demographics and viewership behavior specifically suited to the Filipino market. Applications to the workshops are now being accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis. Interested parties can call Laisa for details at 926-3640, 925-0286, telefax 926-2722, or e-mail upfilminstitute@hotmail.com or bjorki71@yahoo.com, or log on to www.upd.edu.ph/~film_institute/workshop.html.

Valentine's indulgence

IN 1940, screen temptress Rita Hayworth heralded the seductive power of beautiful nails when she pointed her slender fingers at her leading man and hypnotically beckoned to him with her long red nails. Forevermore, the thought of a woman with ultra-feminine, well-sculpted nails became the stuff of male fantasies. Make them your secret weapon this Valentine's Day-your man won't stand a chance. Gloss Designer Nails in Eastwood City offers hot oil treatments for nails. The salon also offers acrylic and sculptured nails, along with the latest in nail art technology-airbrushed nail art! Gloss Designer Nails is the baby of three friends-company manager Lynnie Aruiza, Sandra Adlong conducts the purchasing duties, and US resident Femmie Gregorio keeps track of the latest nail trends. From Feb. 11 to 14, a special offer of 30 to 50-percent discounts is offered. Gloss Designer Nails is open from 12 p.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays to Saturdays, and up to 9 p.m. on Sundays. Call 421-9121 to make an appointment.

TOPTDA DEADLINE TODAY

Bus, jeepney and taxi drivers have until today, Feb. 14, to join the 2nd Ten Outstanding Public Transport Drivers Awards (TOPTDA) organized by Caltex (Philippines) Inc in cooperation with the Department of Energy, the Safety Organization of the Philippines (Sopi), other government partners and various public transport associations in Metro Manila. TOPTDA aims to promote a culture of safety and recognize drivers' contribution to society. The 10 winners will receive P100,000 each in cash and accident insurance, while the 10 finalists will receive P10,000 each. The award is open to all public bus, jeepney and metered sedan taxi drivers in Metro Manila who have a clean record from MMDA, LTO, PNP and NBI for 2004 and are active members of public transport associations. Entry forms are available at jeepney, bus and taxi association offices and at the Caltex policy, government and public affairs office at the 10th floor of 6750 Building, Ayala Avenue, Makati. Shown at the launch were the winners of last year's TOPTDA with Randy Johnson, Caltex country chair (2nd from right) and Robert Hakim, Chevron Texaco vice president for marketing in Asia Pacific.

BOARDWALK'S NEWEST CELEBRITY ENDORSER

Boardwalk Business Ventures Inc, one of the pioneering and established direct selling and networking companies in the Philippines, has formally signed up Vanna Garcia as its newest celebrity endorser. Vanna Garcia is a member of ABS-CBN's roster of talents and a rising teen star. Shown is Bernardo Madera, president of Boardwalk Business Ventures Inc and Vanna Garcia.

ProduciFILES

Bike equipment

COMPACT cars, SUVs and AUVs were not designed to carry excess luggage other than what would fit in its trunk. If you have more luggage than what your vehicle will allow, like mountain bikes, let Thule provide you with the solution. Thule Bike Rack Systems of Sweden makes it possible to carry your bike anywhere and anytime. Thule Bike Rack systems are designed to be a perfect fit for most Japanese, European and American cars, AUVs and SUVs. Made of cutting-edge materials, Thule Bike Rack Systems are waterproof and theft-proof and have undergone stringent OEM quality testing and has passed the four seasons test as required by the Ford Q1, QS9000, the German DIN 75302, German TUV and the ISO norm 11154 and 14001. Shown is a Mazda 3 equipped with a Thule Bike Rack system.

Thule's line of roof boxes, bike racks and accessories are on display at its showroom at the Equitable Bank Building, Ortigas Avenue corner Roosevelt Streets, Greenhills, San Juan. Call 744-6367 or log on to www.thule.com for inquiries.

GOLF INVITATIONAL

To start the year of the rooster with a bang, Jaguar-Land Rover Philippines is set to stage the 6th Jaguar-Land Rover Golf Invitational at the Sta. Elena Golf and Country Club from March 8 to 11. Close associates and guest VIPs from business, government and media sectors are expected to test each other's mettle at the greens for an opportunity to represent the country in Glen Eagles, Scotland in the Jaguar World Golf. The champion team will be flown to Scotland by KLM, the official carrier of the 6th Jaguar-Land Rover Golf Invitational. A special hole-in-one prize also awaits the lucky golfer. Shown during the formal signing agreement with KLM-Air France Airlines are (from left) Wellington Soong, chair and president of Jaguar-Land Rover Philippines and Jose Laurente Jr, KLM-Air France country manager.

hub

BE FIRST.

BE RAW

The new compact,
exquisite,
stunningly refined
02 Xda IIs.

MENU OF FEATURES:
Quadband, Windows-based PDA Phone
with slide-out keyboard.
GPRS, MMS, Bluetooth connectivity.
Advanced PC functions, email, and Internet browsing.
Excellent VGA camera and video.
Large and clear touch screen that allows landscape
and portrait orientation.

on bed lies nude fish
from cold water to the beach
no, not to sunbathe

Get the O2 Xda IIs with a new
Ⓖ Plan and indulge in a Maguro
Sashimi Platter at a Sugi Restaurant.

See posters for details. Promo until Feb. 28, 2005.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0374, Series of 2005.

Free at Ⓖ Plan 5000.
Comes with the Ⓖ Plan opti-SIM.
Now with MyGlobe personalization.

Rockwell. Greenbelt. Glorietta. The Podium. Greenhills. www.hub-eshop.com

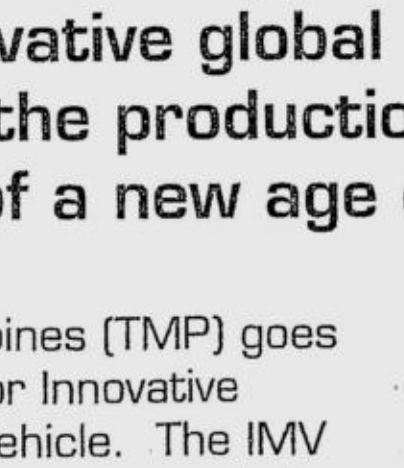
O2 Globe HANDYPHONE

TOYOTA...
...Making the Best Even Better!

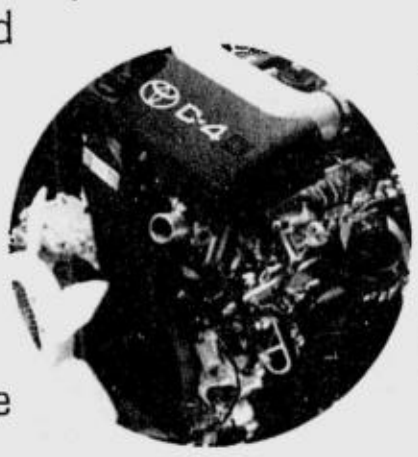
Toyota Motor Philippines launches the INNOVA –
a model of an innovative global manufacturing and supply system for the production of automobiles...
...the dawning of a new age of global production for Toyota.

Toyota Motor Philippines (TMP) goes global with IMV or Innovative Multipurpose Vehicle. The IMV represents a new approach in production. It is an achievement of one of Toyota's visions – a multi-country supply chain where extremely high percentage of vehicle components are procured from international sources.

We are proud to be part of this IMV Project. The launch of the INNOVA, and the role we now play in this global supply system, is the fulfillment of Toyota's pledge to strengthen local production operations, and to support the development of the Philippine automotive industry.



Through investments and technology transfer, our newly consolidated plant in the 82-hectare Toyota Special Economic Zone in Santa Rosa, Laguna is now a state-of-the art manufacturing facility, with world-class processes and highly-skilled Team Members.



The Toyota Group, including the dealer network, employs over 12,000 Filipinos and supports the growth of local businesses, SMEs that comprise majority of our supplier base.

Whether as the local manufacturer of the premium IMV model, or as an export supplier of auto parts, The Toyota Group in the Philippines is playing a major role in the globalization of Toyota.

We reaffirm our commitment to spur economic growth, and to help the country and the Filipino people shape a more prosperous future.

TOYOTA

Philippine history seen through Santa Cruz district in Manila

PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto F. Villalon

ANNA Maria L. Harper in her book "Santa Cruz Church, A Living Heritage" meticulously chronicles the development of the Sta. Cruz district in Manila from a sleepy 16th-century agricultural backwater to its rise as one of the premier economic hubs of Manila.

Although the book's title focuses on Sta. Cruz Church, Harper places the church in the context of its surrounding district, and rightly so, since construction of public edifices especially churches is the result of collaboration among its users, parishioners and priests, a reflection on the lifestyle, economics and religiosity of the people.

Sta. Cruz church is the outcome of such collaboration, a structure reflecting the development of the Sta. Cruz lifestyle. The church architecturally records the district's history. Originally a wooden structure built by the Jesuits in the early 17th century, it became a stone church in the 18th century, then expanded a commercial center, until World War II flattened it. It was reconstructed after the war.

"The story of the parish of Sta Cruz begins in the 1590s when Jesuit rector, Fr. Antonio Sedeño, went searching for land outside Intramuros that could be cultivated for the support of the College of Manila," Harper writes, adding that the priest would never have imagined that the land would develop into the rich and powerful district of Sta. Cruz.

Towards the mid-18th century, male Chinese tenants of Jesuit farms intermarried with Filipinas. Their children, known as mestizo Sangleys, grew to become painters, sculptors of ivory, silversmiths and jewelers, giving the district an identity as the center for artists and craftsmen.

Despite the British invasion of 1762 and the Jesuit expulsion in 1768, Sta. Cruz prospered. Residents replaced the original wooden church with a stone church to mark their status. The surviving tower from the 18th century is now the oldest part of the present church.

By the 19th century, Sta. Cruz took on an urbanized and cosmopolitan ambiance. It developed into a business center, with warehouses next to Pasig River near spacious residences of local and foreign businessmen that could be reached either by land or through the network of *esteros* that flowed through Manila until recent times.

In the mid-19th century, Sta Cruz flourished with mansions such as the Mauricio house on Calle Anloague depicted by Rizal in "Noli Me Tangere." Harper describes the lifestyle of the era in vivid detail, tracing the growth of the district, its notable personages, and the establishments that arose in the area.

Mixed neighborhoods developed, "of residences and commercial establishments... some buildings were designed as *accesorias*—rows of attached dwellings in a block—that housed stores on the ground floor and the shopkeeper's family on the upper floor.

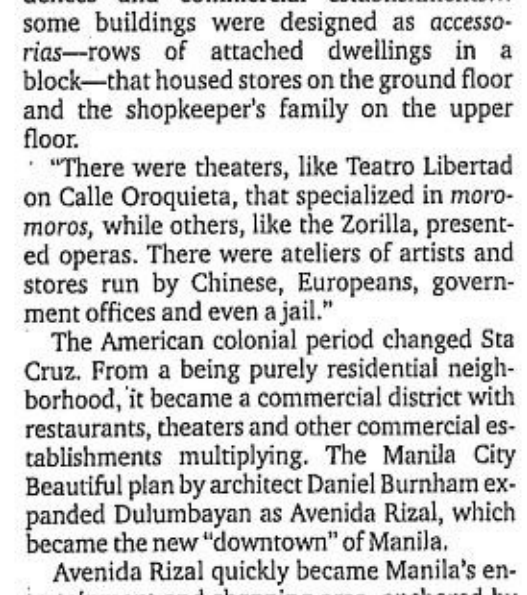
"There were theaters, like Teatro Libertad on Calle Oroquieta, that specialized in *moromoros*, while others, like the Zorilla, presented operas. There were ateliers of artists and stores run by Chinese, Europeans, government offices and even a jail."

The American colonial period changed Sta Cruz. From a being purely residential neighborhood, it became a commercial district with restaurants, theaters and other commercial establishments multiplying. The Manila City Beautiful plan by architect Daniel Burnham expanded Dulumbayan as Avenida Rizal, which became the new "downtown" of Manila.

Avenida Rizal quickly became Manila's entertainment and shopping area, anchored by Ideal Theater on Plaza Goiti. Soon after, it was punctuated by a row of movie theaters like the Avenue and State and many others.

Those were the "Empire Days" of rapid change. English was being taught in newly opened schools. Business transferred from Binondo to Sta. Cruz. Many of the well-to-do

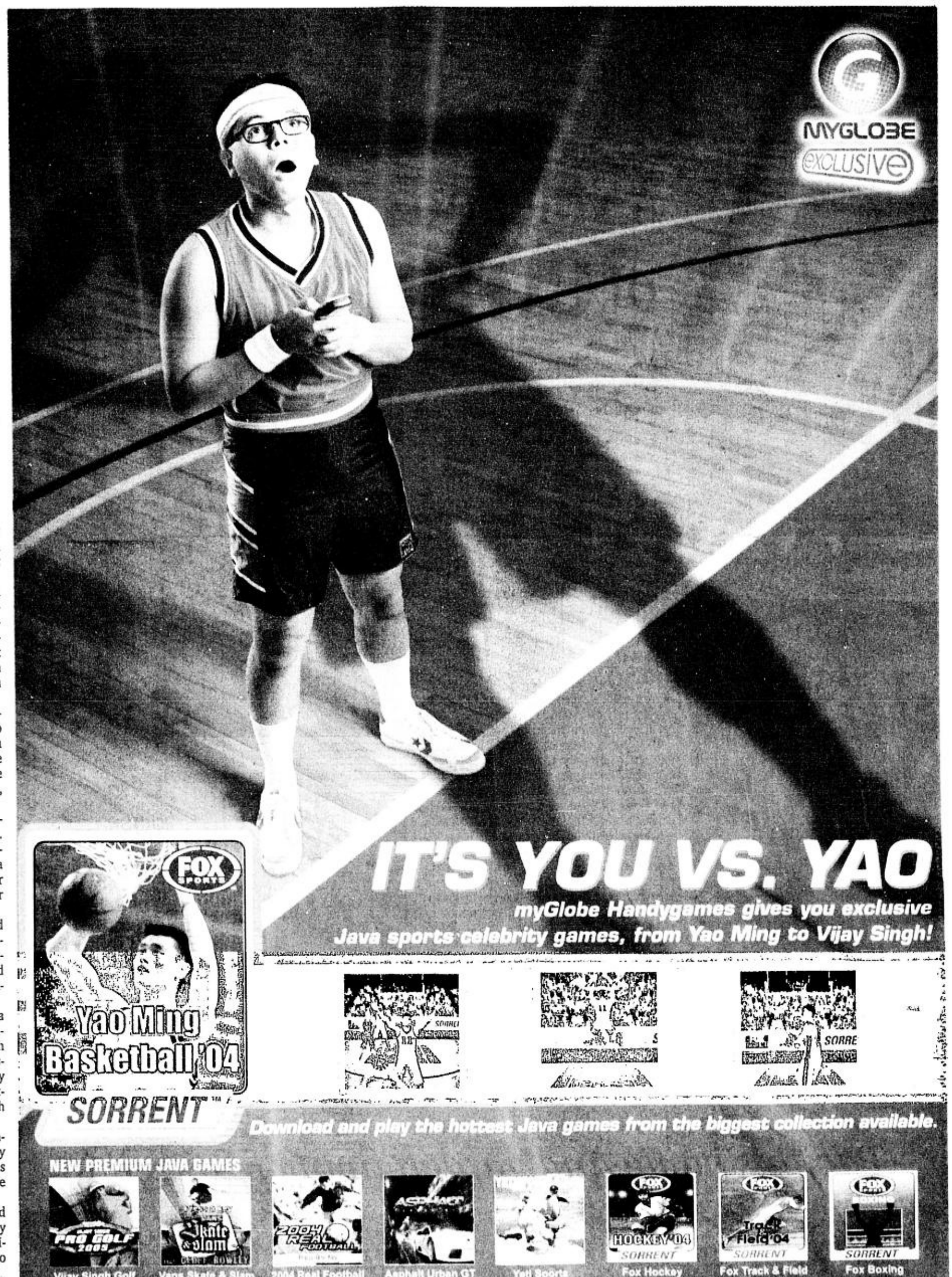
PHILIPPINE/ C7



THE CHURCH architecturally records the district's history.

ACCESORIAS still line a Sta. Cruz Street.

The DPWH has assured that the old houses of Baclayon in Bohol wouldn't be demolished. But heritage vigilantes must keep guard


MYGLOBE
EXCLUSIVE
IT'S YOU VS. YAO
myGlobe Handygames gives you exclusive
Java sports celebrity games, from Yao Ming to Vijay Singh!
Yao Ming Basketball '04
SORRENT
Download and play the hottest Java games from the biggest collection available.
NEW PREMIUM JAVA GAMES
Vijay Singh Golf
Vans Skate & Slam
2004 Real Football
Asphalt Urban GT
Yeti Sports
Fox Hockey
Fox Track & Field
Fox Boxing
MORE NEW JAVA GAMES
Steve Davis Snooker
Pub Darts
Pub Pool
Parabomber
Ghoolz All-Star Athletics
Ghoolz Hoops
Ghoolz Buster
Burger Blitz
To download myGlobe Handygames:
1. Go to the myGlobe WAP site.
2. Click on the New Handygames link.
3. Choose from the list of compatible games.
Note: Only the games compatible with your phone will be listed on your phone screen.
RATES:
P50/download on Premium Handygames P30/download on other Handygames
Fox Sports is a registered trademark of Fox Interactive Television. All Rights Reserved. Sorrent Inc. 2004.
gameloft
©2004 Gameloft. All Rights Reserved. 2004 Real Football is a trademark of Gameloft. Gameloft and the Gameloft logo are trademarks of Gameloft in the US and/or other countries. The trademarks Harbour Town Golf Links and Sea Pines are used under Licensed from Sea Pines Company, Inc. Vans and Vans logo are registered trademarks of Vans, Inc.
Activate MMS and GPRS on your phone now!
1. For a list of compatible handsets, send NOKIA, ERICSSON or SAMSUNG (depending on your handset model) to 2365. Regular text messaging charges apply.
2. Text GO <handset model> to 2951 to get your phone's settings. Ex. GO N3650. For Nokia 6170, 6630, 6230, 6600, 6620, 6260, 7200 and 7610 text GO <handset model>. 1234 to 2951. Make sure that you type in the two commas before the 1234 PIN.
3. Enter 1234 when asked for PIN to save the settings.
4. Send an MMS message for only P3.00 to activate the service.
making great things possible
Globe HANDYPHONE

LIFESTYLE

sms feedback: inquirer life name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart)
or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso
Subsection Editor Lito B. Zulueta

Philippine history seen through Santa Cruz district in Manila

PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto F. Villalon

ANNA Maria L. Harper in her book "Santa Cruz Church, A Living Heritage" meticulously chronicles the development of the Sta. Cruz district in Manila from a sleepy 16th-century agricultural backwater to its rise as one of the premier economic hubs of Manila.

Although the book's title focuses on Sta. Cruz Church, Harper places the church in the context of its surrounding district, and rightly so, since construction of public edifices especially churches is the result of collaboration among its users, parishioners and priests, a reflection on the lifestyle, economics and religiosity of the people.

Sta. Cruz church is the outcome of such collaboration, a structure reflecting the development of the Sta. Cruz lifestyle. The church architecturally records the district's history. Originally a wooden structure built by the Jesuits in the early 17th century, it became a stone church in the 18th century, then expanded a commercial center, until World War II flattened it. It was reconstructed after the war.

"The story of the parish of Sta Cruz begins in the 1590s when Jesuit rector, Fr. Antonio Sedeño, went searching for land outside Intramuros that could be cultivated for the support of the College of Manila," Harper writes, adding that the priest would never have imagined that the land would develop into the rich and powerful district of Sta. Cruz.

Towards the mid-18th century, male Chinese tenants of Jesuit farms intermarried with Filipinas. Their children, known as mestizo Sangleys, grew to become painters, sculptors of ivory, silversmiths and jewelers, giving the district an identity as the center for artists and craftsmen.

Despite the British invasion of 1762 and the Jesuit expulsion in 1768, Sta. Cruz prospered. Residents replaced the original wooden church with a stone church to mark their status. The surviving tower from the 18th century is now the oldest part of the present church.

By the 19th century, Sta. Cruz took on an urbanized and cosmopolitan ambiance. It developed into a business center, with warehouses next to Pasig River near spacious residences of local and foreign businessmen that could be reached either by land or through the network of *esteros* that flowed through Manila until recent times.

In the mid-19th century, Sta Cruz flourished with mansions such as the Mauricio house on Calle Anloague depicted by Rizal in "Noli Me Tangere." Harper describes the lifestyle of the era in vivid detail, tracing the growth of the district, its notable personages, and the establishments that arose in the area.

Mixed neighborhoods developed, "of residences and commercial establishments... some buildings were designed as *accesorias*—rows of attached dwellings in a block—that housed stores on the ground floor and the shopkeeper's family on the upper floor.

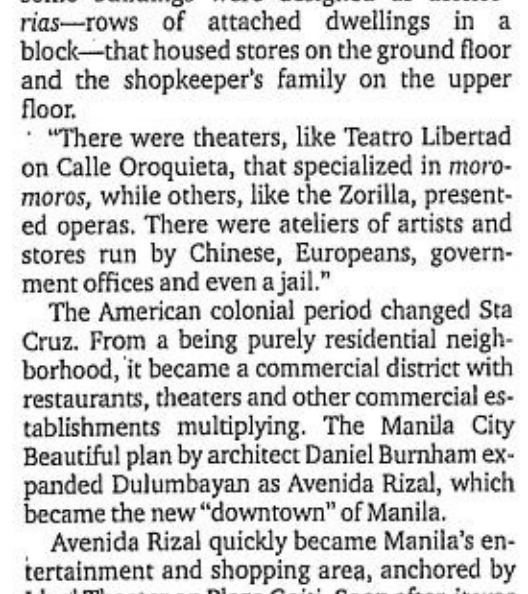
"There were theaters, like Teatro Libertad on Calle Oroquieta, that specialized in *moromoros*, while others, like the Zorilla, presented operas. There were ateliers of artists and stores run by Chinese, Europeans, government offices and even a jail."

The American colonial period changed Sta Cruz. From a being purely residential neighborhood, it became a commercial district with restaurants, theaters and other commercial establishments multiplying. The Manila City Beautiful plan by architect Daniel Burnham expanded Dulumbayan as Avenida Rizal, which became the new "downtown" of Manila.

Avenida Rizal quickly became Manila's entertainment and shopping area, anchored by Ideal Theater on Plaza Goiti. Soon after, it was punctuated by a row of movie theaters like the Avenue and State and many others.

Those were the "Empire Days" of rapid change. English was being taught in newly opened schools. Business transferred from Binondo to Sta. Cruz. Many of the well-to-do

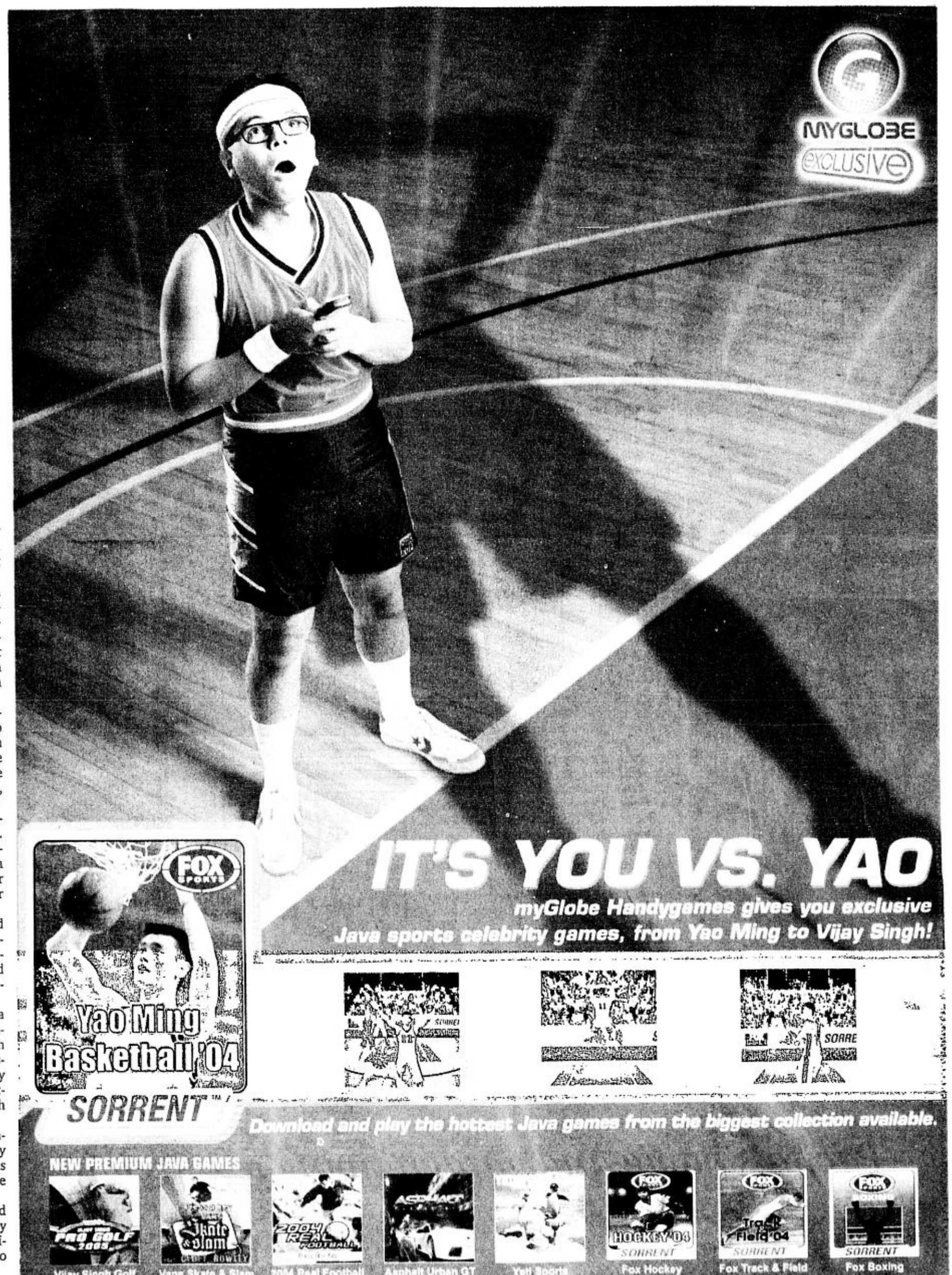
PHILIPPINE/ C7



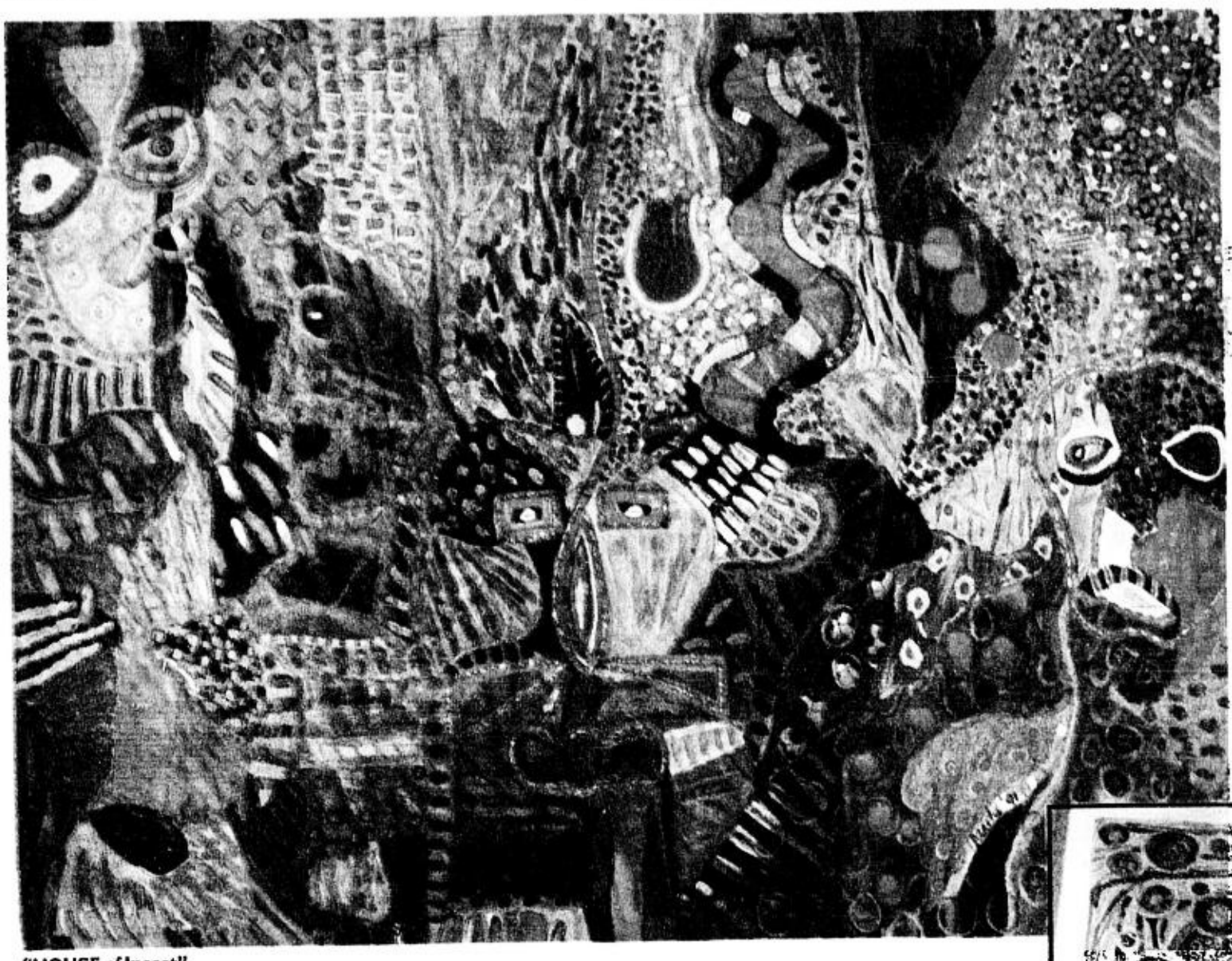
THE CHURCH architecturally records the district's history.

ACCESORIAS still line a Sta. Cruz Street.

The DPWH has assured that the old houses of Baclayon in Bohol wouldn't be demolished. But heritage vigilantes must keep guard


MYGLOBE
EXCLUSIVE
IT'S YOU VS. YAO
myGlobe Handygames gives you exclusive
Java sports celebrity games, from Yao Ming to Vijay Singh!
FOX SPORTS
Yao Ming Basketball '04
SORRENT
Download and play the hottest Java games from the biggest collection available.
NEW PREMIUM JAVA GAMES
Vijay Singh Golf
Vans Skate & Slam
2004 Real Football
Asphalt Urban GT
Yeti Sports
Fox Hockey
Fox Track & Field
Fox Boxing
MORE NEW JAVA GAMES
Steve Davis Snooker
Pub Darts
Pub Pool
Parabomber
Ghoolz All-Star Athletics
Ghoolz Hoops
Ghoolz Buster
Burger Blitz
To download myGlobe Handygames:
1. Go to the myGlobe WAP site.
2. Click on the New Handygames link.
3. Choose from the list of compatible games.
Note: Only the games compatible with your phone will be listed on your phone screen.
RATES:
P 50/download on Premium Handygames P30/download on other Handygames
Fox Sports is a registered trademark of Fox Interactive Television. All Rights Reserved. Sorrent Inc. 2004
gameloft
©2004 Gameloft. All Rights Reserved. 2004 Real Football is a trademark of Gameloft. Gameloft and the Gameloft logo are trademarks of Gameloft in the US and/or other countries. The trademarks Harbour Town Golf Links and Sea Pines are used under Licensed from Sea Pines Company, Inc. Vans and Vans logo are registered trademarks of Vans, Inc.
Activate MMS and GPRS on your phone now!
1. For a list of compatible handsets, send NOKIA, ERICSSON or SAMSUNG (depending on your handset model) to 2365. Regular txt messaging charges apply.
2. Text GO <handset model> to 2951 to get your phone's settings. Ex. GO N3650. For Nokia 6170, 6630, 6230, 6600, 6820, 6260, 7200 and 7610 text GO <handset model>,, 1234 to 2951. Make sure that you type in the two commas before the 1234 PIN.
3. Enter 1234 when asked for PIN to save the settings.
4. Send an MMS message for only P3.00 to activate the service.
making great things possible
Globe HANDYPHONE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



"HOUSE of Incest"

BATIK and Wayang dinnerware

A volcano of colors

"POLKA Dots Stripes"

"RAMA and Shinta"

"PORTRAIT of Louie Cruz"

Text by Constantino C. Tejero
Photos by August de la Cruz

THE ART of Pacita Abad has long been associated with hot colors and myriad circles. Some who've known the late artist say it is only reflective of her effusive nature and infectious laughter.

National Museum of the Philippines director Corazón Alvina, in her lecture during the "Parangal for Pacita Abad" on the occasion of the 40th day after the artist's passing, said Abad's art found "full-bodied expression in color, volume and, dare we say, decibel" in what had become her signature technique.

Abad's trapunto art, in which shapes and images are stuffed, stitched, painted on and embellished, has been inspired by the traditional Sicilian craft of quilting, embroidering and studding. *Trapunta* is simply Italian for "quilt."

Using mixed media ranging from paper, textile and acrylic to plastic buttons, ceramic shards, mirror, sequins, metal and thread, Abad has transformed this Western craft into neo-ethnic art that's insistently Oriental.

Working in over 80 countries from Latin America to Africa, she assimilated the indigenous cultures of the various ethnic societies she lived in, and thus imparted mostly Third World identities on her art. Even the ceramic dinnerware she created feature ethnic elements: the Indonesian *wayang* puppets and the design motifs of batik.

The result is a riot of textures and hues, an art that's seemingly wild but is really very disciplined, each piece rigorously composed and finely crafted. What appear like random strokes and savage gestures could be rigid designs and motifs, both secular and sacral, as well as an expression of the artist's exuberance, an excess of personality.

Issues and evolution

And Abad's art isn't just adornment, either. In the years of curating Abad's works, Alvina remembered seeing "faces of immigration, images of Philippine social issues, environmental inspirations."

This can best be appreciated in the tribute exhibit of a selection of Abad's art, personal papers, interviews and memorabilia in Pardo de Tavera Room, 2/F, Rizal Library Building, Ateneo de Manila University, Loyola Heights, Quezon City. Presented by the Ateneo Library of Women's Writings and Fundacion Pacita, the exhibit runs until Feb. 17.

Here are 10 artworks and a sampling of the artist's limited-edition Wayang and Batik dinnerware. In fact, though small, the exhibit is a fair sampling of Abad's oeuvre, showing the evolution of her art from representational to abstract.

The earliest is a conventional painting, "Woman in Bangladesh," a social realist piece in oil on paper.

This is followed by two genre works: "Woman of the World," a nude in oil on canvas; and "Portrait of Louie Cruz," a society portrait in acrylic on paper.

The trapunto technique first appears in a large figurative expressionist piece flirting with abstraction: "House of Incest," oil on canvas, stitched with beads, shells, buttons, glass, yarn and padded cotton.

Ethnic motifs appear in two pieces. The paper collage "Untitled" features an African mask amid colorful patterns.

In "Rama and Shinta," in acrylic and batik stitched on padded canvas, the artist transformed her driver Danny and housemaid Maia into characters from the "Ramayana." (The incredible treatment of the canvas, showing innumerable short lines of running stitch as design element, demonstrates Abad's craftsmanship.)

Adornment and identity

The last four pieces are full-scale abstraction in trapunto: "Oh Happy Days," 26-color stenciled paper pulp on handmade STPI paper; "Calendar Girl," 18-color paper pulp, mirror and buttons on shaped handmade paper;

"Polka Dots Stripes," oil and acrylic, mylar, sequins, printed fabric and printed paper on handmade paper; "Rolling Stones," acrylic, glitter and painted cardboard collaged on handmade paper.

These four were among the 20 prints and paper-pulp pieces exhibited with 70 "Obsession" paintings in "Circles in My Mind" at the Cultural Center of the Philippines late last year. It was Abad's final exhibit in her homeland when she was still alive.

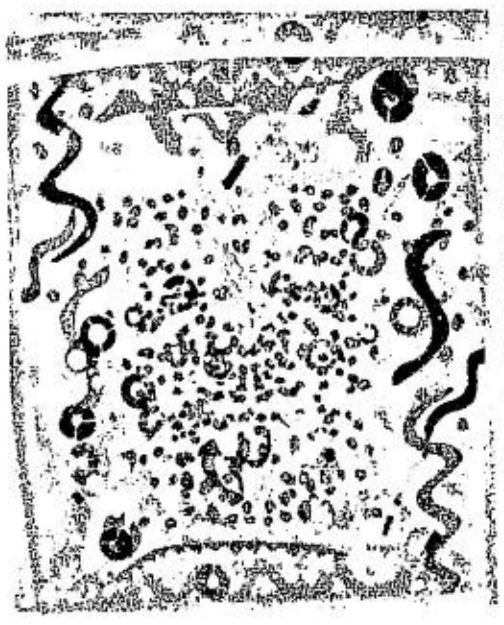
And here, even the adornments have import. Alvina recalled the artist telling her she liked using buttons because they reminded her of Filipinos.

"They are both numerous, variously shaped, sized and colored," explicated Alvina. "Both are everywhere and can adapt and blend in, or stand out, or fall off through faulty stitching and weak rooting. Filipinos and buttons have potentials for different roles and functions. Buttons—and Filipinos—can also be not overly visible, appear to disappear even as they add to the texture of trapuntos, and to that of life wherever the Filipino chooses to be."

Abad took up Political Science in University of the Philippines and was an activist in the days of the Marcos dictatorship. She had intended to proceed to law school in Madrid, then in the United States, but when she stopped off in San Francisco, she was waylaid by art.

She lived for a time in Haight-Ashbury, at the peak of Flower Power, and that must have been where her mind-blowing art had taken roots.

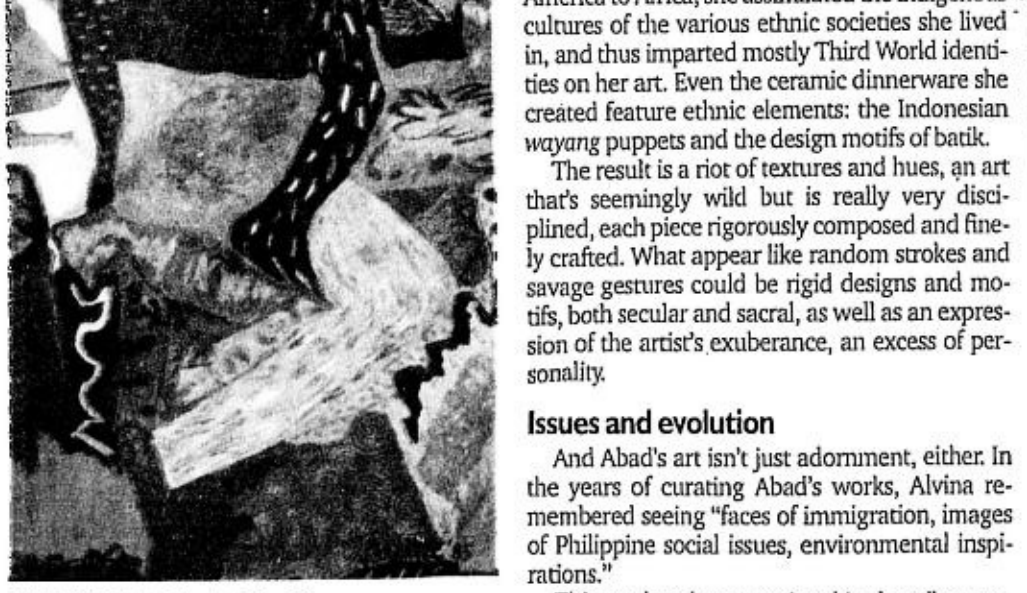
"WOMAN in Bangladesh"



"OH Happy Days"

"UNTITLED"

Pacita's home and garden living featured in Metro Home



THE ARTIST'S living room in Singapore is a burst of hues and neo-ethnic motifs.

THE NEWEST issue of Metro Home & Entertaining brings the outdoors in, exploring homes that have stylishly incorporated nature as a key design element.

On the cover is a private atrium garden adjacent to the bedroom of architect Gerry Contreras. It is a luxurious oasis in the heart of the city. There is also the suburban residence of a banker, a sprawling garden estate with open, traditional Filipino-style structures comprising a nostalgic idyll.

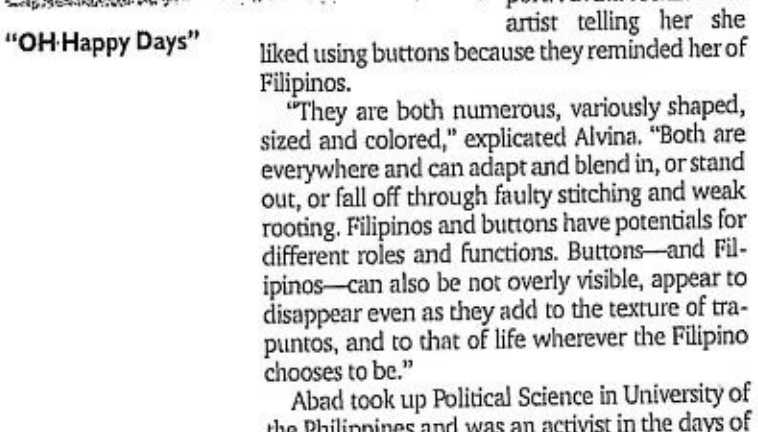
Philanthropist Gina Lopez has a home of similar openness but in a more modern idiom, a round home atop a hill. The country house of writer Tweetums Gonzalez takes full advantage of the gorgeous natural backdrop in pavilions surrounded by lotus-filled ponds.

The issue also features the Singapore home of the late Pacita Abad, the well-known and much admired artist. The residence is truly remarkable, infused with her vibrant and infinite creativity.

The entertaining section celebrates classic cocktails, and shows how quick and convenient Chinese takeout can be transformed into a memorably elegant dinner party.

Metro Home & Entertaining is a quarterly of ABS-CBN Publishing. It is available at leading bookstores and newsstands nationwide.

Call 4152852.



ABAD painting of Indonesian puppet in a corner of her house

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

GUEST of honor Jaime Zobel with authors Sonia Pinto Ner and Jose Ma. Carino

DR. JAIME Laya with artists Phyllis Zaballero and Arturo Luz

Culturati toast historic album of Hispanic Philippines

THE BOOK, "Album: Islas Filipinas 1663-1888," was launched recently with an overflow of guests at the Baron's Bar of the Tower Club in Makati.

Artists, art collectors, book lovers, writers, Filipiniana buffs and friends of the authors, Jose Ma. Carino and Sonia Pinto Ner, came to celebrate the launch of a book which has spectacular images of Hispanic Philippines, many of them made available to the public for the first time.

In a short program, the authors presented copies of the book to National Artists Arturo Luz and Salvador Bernal to acknowledge their contribution to the arts. Copies of the book were also presented to the guests of honor who had all been supportive of the project: Ollie Campos, Martine David and Jaime Zobel. The authors also acknowledged the cooperation of the collectors of the albums featured, especially Dr. Eleuterio Pascual, who loaned his Damian Domingo album to the project.

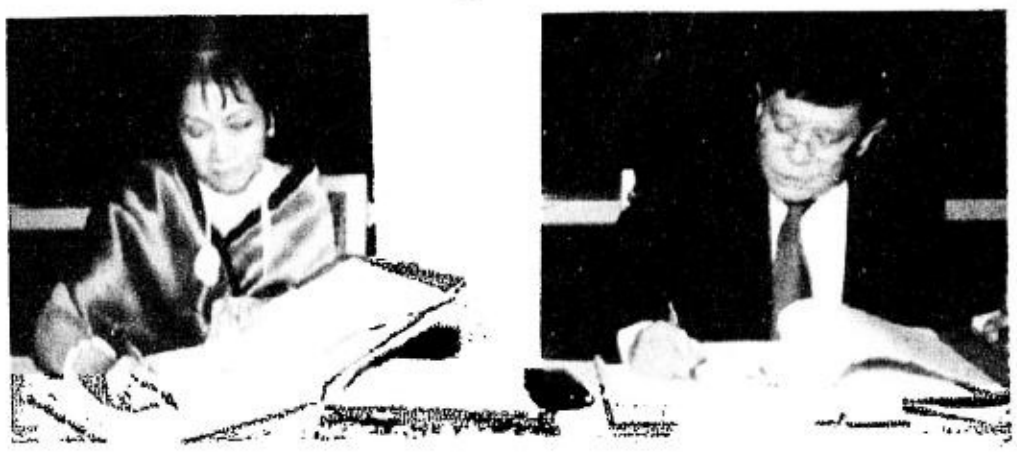
The guests were one in hailing the book as a most informative and beautiful contribution to the study of Philippine art, culture and history, and a definite collectible.

The book is now available in museum shops and selected book stores.

MARTY Magsanoc, Dr. Teyet Pascual, Ms Yupangco, Angela Arroyo and Charito Montenegro

AUTHORS with guest of honor Martine David

GIGI Gonzales, Sonia Ner, Cynthia Ongpin Valdes, Linda Panlilio



THE AUTHORS signing books

IF SOMEONE YOU ARE CARING FOR HAS SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS, BUILD THEIR STRENGTH WITH **NUTREN.**

When you're looking after a loved one's particular needs, you become aware of how things can suddenly change.

Now, their current medical condition prevents them from being as active as they once were.

Bring back the spark and energy into their lives with a better way of caring. One that can make them feel stronger everyday.

Nutren is a delicious meal replacement product and supplement in powder form – a breakthrough from the Nestlé Research Center in Switzerland. Known and prescribed by doctors, Nutren provides support for medical conditions where the role of nutrition is vital. In itself, Nutren is more than a complete meal since it contains whey plus all of the essential nutrients, vitamins and minerals in **every** glass.

In fact, Nutren contains at least 3 times more whey protein than any other commercially-prepared food product or homemade alternative. Whey protein has been clinically proven to:

- help maintain muscle mass throughout aging and repair body tissues[1]
- help boost the immune system by raising levels of glutathione (an **anti-oxidant**), thereby helping reduce the risk of infection[2]

	WHEY
Nutren Meal Replacement	HIGH
Milk supplements	LOW
Table food	NONE

With Nutren, you can give the best and complete care possible, making everyday a special one to look forward to.

FEEL STRONGER EVERYDAY

Available at all leading drugstores nationwide.

Nestlé Nutrition

Nutren Solutions

SPECIALIZED NUTRITION

[1] Wolever T.M.S. Diland, and J.R. Gorman. Crit. Rev. Food & Sci & Nutr. 42:353, 2002. [2] Hudak A. Cancer Res 1994;54(6):1560-1575.

www.nokia.com.ph

NOKIA
3220

NOKIA
6170

NOKIA
9500
COMMUNICATOR

Make that Love C

NOKIA λ

NOKIA
7610

NOKIA
7260

NOKIA 7

Capture and Share Heartfelt Moments with

Available at the following Nokia Stores and Professional Centers:

Globotel
All Branches
Tel # 888-0104

Pines Multi Telecom Shop
#72 Session Road, Baguio City
Tel # (074) 442-4718

Memo Exp
All Branc
Tel # 243-94

As an assurance of quality, purchase only from Authorized Nokia Dea

NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE

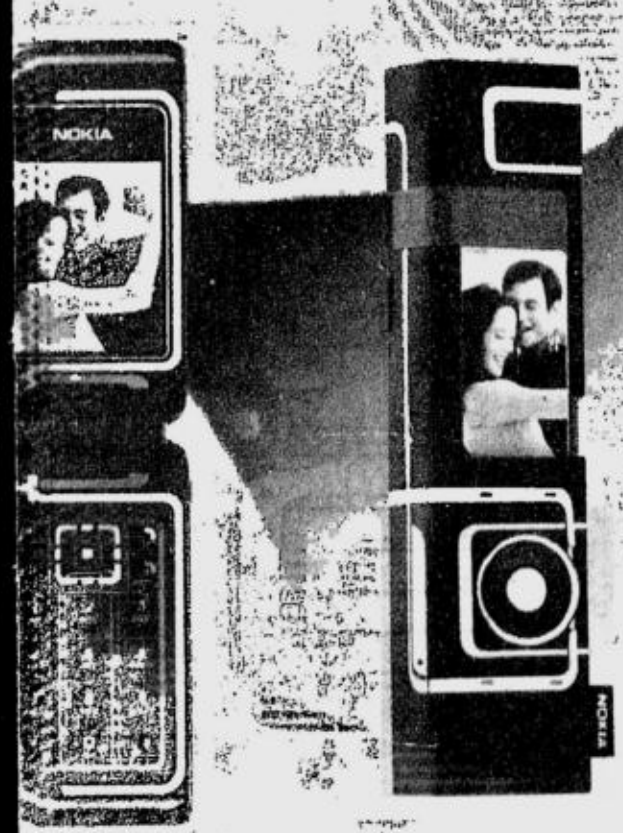
NOKIA 6260

NOKIA 6600

Connection with Mobile Phones

NOKIA 6610i

NOKIA 6630



NOKIA 7280

NOKIA 270

the newest range of Nokia Mobile Phones!

Megacellular
3rd Level, Robinsons Mall, Sta. Rosa, Laguna
Tel # (049) 837-1176

Hello
4th Level, Robinsons Galleria, Mandaluyong City
Tel # 636-7598

Semicon
All Branches
Tel # 681-4965

ess
es
to 64

s/Distributors. For inquiries, call the Nokia Careline at (02) 886-1234.

FOXTROT BY BILL AMEND

HOW WAS SCHOOL?
IT'S VALENTINE'S DAY. HOW DO YOU THINK SCHOOL WAS?
I'VE GOT A STUPID SHOE-BOX FULL OF STUPID LOVE NOTES FROM EVERY STUPID GIRL IN MY CLASS.
CAN I TAKE THEM UP TO YOUR OFFICE?
WHY NOT YOUR BEDROOM?
YOUR OFFICE HAS A PAPER SHREDDER.

A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA

MARVIN BY TOM ARMSTRONG

LEARNING TO INTERPRET YOUR PET'S EXPRESSIONS
WHEN YOUR DOG LOOKS LIKE THIS IT MEANS...
"If I act excited when you get home and pretend like I really missed you, maybe I'll get fed sooner!"

PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR

MUKHANG DUMA DALAS ANG PAGKO-COMPUTER MO A.
HINDI KA NA NAGSU-SULAT SA MGA PEN PAL MO.
HI-TECH NA 'KO 'DRE. INI-eMAIL KO NA ANG MGA PEN PALS KO.
KAYA ANG TAWAG KO SA KANILA NGAYON E "ePALS."
...EPAL?...
"EMAIL BUDDIES" NA LANG.
BUTI PA.

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT

HOW WAS SCHOOL TODAY, ZOE?
GREAT! I GOT A VALENTINE FROM EVERYBODY IN MY CLASS!
HOW WAS YOUR DAY AT SCHOOL, HAMMIE?
TERRIBLE. I GOT A VALENTINE FROM EVERYBODY IN MY CLASS.
INCLUDING GIRLS.
OH.
I THINK I MAY BE SICK!

MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL

ATOMO AND WEBOY BY LYRA GARCELLANO

HERE, WEBOY. I MADE THE PROTOTYPE OF THE "CORRUPTION-ANNIHILATOR". WEAR THIS AROUND YOUR NECK. WHEN YOU'RE FEELING CORRUPTIBLE A SURGE OF ELECTRICITY WILL ZAP YOU.
IT ZAPS BEFORE YOU ACT. THAT SHOULD EXTINGUISH ALL POTENTIAL CORRUPT DESIRES EVEN BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.
I GET ELECTROCUTED BEFORE I ACTUALLY DO ANYTHING?!! ISN'T THAT TOO HARSH?!
OF COURSE NOT! IT'S ALWAYS BEST TO NIP THINGS IN THE BUD.

DIVINE COMEDY BY STEVEN PABALINAS

TINI-TINGNAN KO YONG MGA WEDDING PHOTOS NATIN!
TWO YEARS NA PALA TAYO, BABES!
KUYA PRAYER KO NA BIGYAN PA AKO LALONG GRASYA PARA MAHALIN KA!
WELL... PRAY HARDER!" HINDI PA SINASAGOT ANG PRAYERS MO eh!
GOD, GIVE ME STRENGTH TO PUMMEL HIS HEAD DOWN HIS ESOPHAGUS!

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You have a witty, entertaining style. You appear offhand and casual, but you work hard to achieve your successes. You make others think. You burst bubbles. You tell jokes. You're a philosopher; you know it's naive to take things too seriously. This year involves major change in your life. (Perhaps as significant as in 1996.)
Birthdate of: Hugh Downs, TV journalist; Meg Tilly, actress; Gregory Hines, actor/dancer.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): You want to help a friend. Or possibly, you want to lend your efforts to a group that wants to help others. You're prepared to offer a hand to someone today.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Your idealism and your intentions to help others are obvious to those around you. Because of this, you gain respect from your peers. (Compassion is a noble quality.)

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Your idealism is definitely aroused! You want to help others in distant places. Your involvement the media, the law and higher education could help you do this.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Your close relationship with someone is very tender today. All intimacy becomes gentle and affectionate. You feel truly caring toward others.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Your ability to put yourself in somebody else's shoes is quite amazing today. You have true empathy and sympathy for others. You can imagine what another person feels.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): You can be creative at work today. You see artistic possibilities all around you. You might want to make someone feel better or make things look better. Either way, it's a good thing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Romance is unusually idealistic, starry-eyed and the stuff of movies today. In the same way, you feel very tender about young children. Your heart easily opens to others.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You have great ideas about how to make where you live look more beautiful. You might also want to help a family member today. You feel generous and warmhearted toward the world.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): This is the kind of day where you want to daydream and sort of drift along. You're in an easygoing frame of mind. (You feel poetic.)

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): When you buy things, you like to buy quality items. Today, you want to buy luxurious items! You're in the mood to pamper yourself and others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): You have a feeling of soul union with others today. You see that we are all in this Big Soup together. What is done to one is done to all. (That's the secret of humanity.)

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): You feel a selfless kind of love for others today. You're willing to put their interests and needs before your own.

DAILY CROSSWORD

By Josiah Breward
Scranton, PA
2/14/05

ACROSS
1 Flesh mark
5 IOUs
10 Pearl Harbor's island
14 Seep
15 Hawaiian hello
16 "QB VII" author
17 PC symbol
18 Jury
19 Nor'easter
20 1940 Jack Benny movie
23 Hemp for sacks
24 __ on your life!
25 Name on cakes
28 Prima donna's problem
29 Pen partner?
32 Etching fluids
33 Imitate
34 Melancholy
35 1955 hit by Frank Sinatra
39 Periods
40 Spacewalk, to NASA
41 Baseball's Doubleday
42 L. Michaels' show
43 Loony
44 Bob Marley's band
46 Little yelp
47 Cheap jewelry
48 1979 George Hamilton movie
55 Proper companion?
56 Peace goddess
57 Early garden
58 Contributed
59 __ on (mollycoddles)
60 Direct
61 Greenspan or King
62 Zounds!
63 Highland hats

DOWN
1 Make dirty
2 Fashion designer Chanel
3 Black Sea arm
4 Turncoats
5 Writer du Maurier
6 Comic Boosler
7 Like the banks of Loch Lomond
8 Fare-__-well
9 "The Catcher in the Rye" author
10 Relative of should
11 Part of U.A.R.
12 Hawaiian port
13 Manipulator
21 Oklahoma city
22 Moo __ gai pan
25 Yard and garage events
26 Potential oak
27 Alternative beau
28 Eco-unit
29 Leveling tool
30 Boring tool
31 Lascivious looks
33 Docs' org.
34 Fundamentalist region
36 Counterpart of spring
37 Movie on a PC
38 "I Can't Make You Love Me" singer Bonnie
43 Mama __
44 Alerted
45 Value
46 Oman neighbor
47 Pitiful piece of art?
48 Org. of Webb and Sorenstam
49 Evangelist Roberts
50 "__ Zapata!"
51 Aquatic croaker
52 Brainstorm
53 Yoked group
54 Ceases

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

D	E	V	I	A	T	E			L	E	G	A	T	O	R
A	L	A	D	D	I	N			A	S	I	N	I	N	E
M	A	R	L	E	M	E			D	A	N	K	E	S	T
A	S	S	E	S			R	I	D		A	L	D	E	R
S	T	I	P		A	G	N	E	S		E	Y	R	E	
K	I	T		F	L	Y	T	R	A	P		E	V	A	
S	C	Y	L	L	A		H	E	T	A	H	D	E	D	
			T	O	R	P	I	D	I	T	Y				
A	C	A	D	E	M	I	C		R	E	F	F	E	R	
B	O	B		S	E	R	A	P	E	S		L	Y	E	
E	R	O	S		D	O	T	E	S		H	U	E	S	
T	R	U	L	Y		G	E	E		M	O	T	T	O	
T	O	N	N	E	A	U		P	L	A	S	T	E	R	
O	D	D	S	A	R	E		C	E	R	I	E	S	T	
R	E	S	E	N	T	S		D	E	S	E	R	T	S	

(C)2005 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved.

3/14/05

MIKROKOSMOS BY JOMIKE TEJIDO

KUNG MAPUNTA KA SA ISANG ISLANG WALANG KURYENTE AT SOBRANG INIT, ANONG ISANG BAGAY NA GUSTO MONG DALA?
AKO, PAMAYPAY PARA MAG-PAHANGIN
AKO, MALAKING KARTON PARA MAS MAHANGIN!
ANG HIRAP PA NUN! AKO, PINTUAN NALANG NG KOTSE..
BAKIT?
"PARA IBABABA KO NA LANG ANG... BINTANA!"
Intejido '05

BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON

KIKO MACHINE BY MANIX ABRERA

ACUPUNCTURE...
AH... ARE... AREKU! AAAH... A-ARE-ARE!
RELAX MO LANG KASI MUSCLES MO! MASAKIT 'TO 'PAG TENSE KA!...
BA'T BA ME' FEELING AKO NA PARANG FORM 'TO NG PANGKUKULAM NA HARDCORE? ME' PINAPARATING KA BAN?
TUSUKIN MO DIN SA DILA PARA TUMAHIMIK!...
AHHGH!...
DIYOSKO!

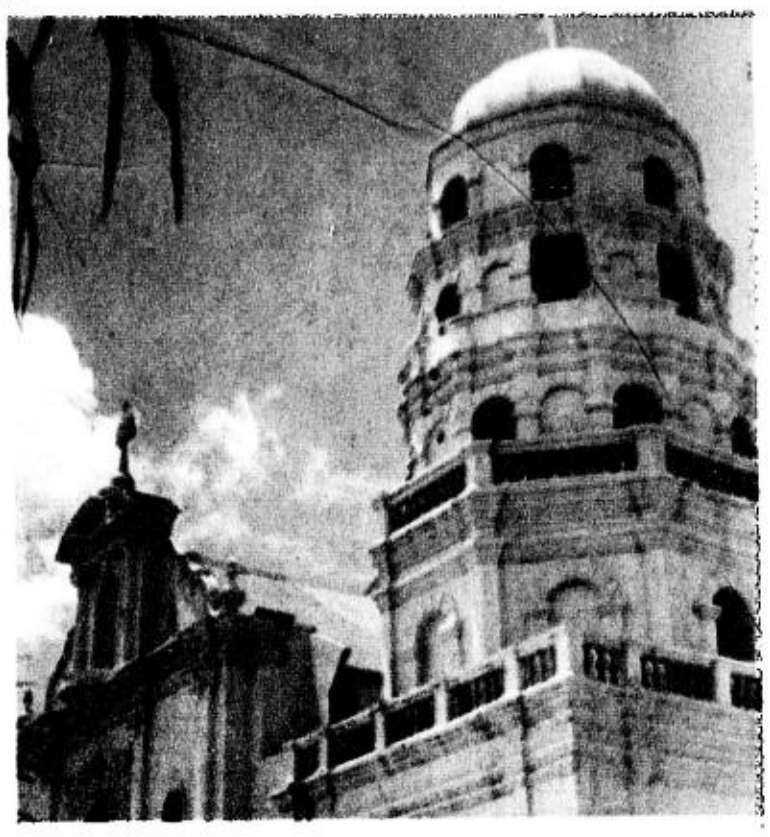
LOVEKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO

NUNG PASKO BINATI TAYO NG GOBYERNO NG "MERRY CRISIS-MAS!"
NUNG BAGONG TAON, BINATI TAYO NG "MANIGONG BAGONG TAX!!"
NGAYONG FEBRUARY... "HAPPY VAT-LENTINE"

TULDOK BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

THE NEW look of Avenida Rizal



STA. CRUZ Church

Philippine history seen through . . .

From page C1

moved away to Quiapo or the outlying districts of Malate, Ermita and to what eventually became Quezon City.

Sta. Cruz kept up with all of the changes happening in the country. Harper recounts how each change had an impact on the district's lifestyle and urbanscape.

Harper writes facts, not nostalgia. She successfully builds on accurate historical facts, presenting them in a great narrative that reconstructs life in Sta. Cruz over four centuries, tracing the evolution of its residents' lives from being farmers, then as craftsmen, and finally as entrepreneurs.

She backdrops their lives with their surroundings, an agricultural suburb of Manila that developed into an urban economic center in the late 19th century, then flowering into pre-eminence as a residential, business, and entertainment district during the American colonial period until World War II.

Harper ends her chronicle of Sta. Cruz during World War II: "On March 3, 1945, a Manila that was laid waste—described by the military authorities as the second most devastated city after Warsaw—was liberated.

"The quaint oriental city of medieval churches, shaded avenues of acacias, leisurely days of promenades and lighthearted banter vanished forever, buried in the ruins of her buildings, burnt to ashes with the bodies of the 100,000 Manileños slaughtered in that fateful February holocaust."

Ending her narrative of Sta. Cruz district with the destruction of Manila was an inspired and merciful decision, sparing the author from having to write about the insufferable urban condition that today's Manila has degenerated into.

The city seems to have never recovered from the urban damage done by World War II that still continues to be followed by even more horrors of urban damage inflicted on our Manila by its citizens and leaders.

The Sta. Cruz Church Parish Pastoral Council published "Santa Cruz Church, A Living Heritage." The book is difficult to find. However Ms Masbate at the Sta. Cruz Church Parish Office (tel. 7330245) will take orders. Call 7330245.

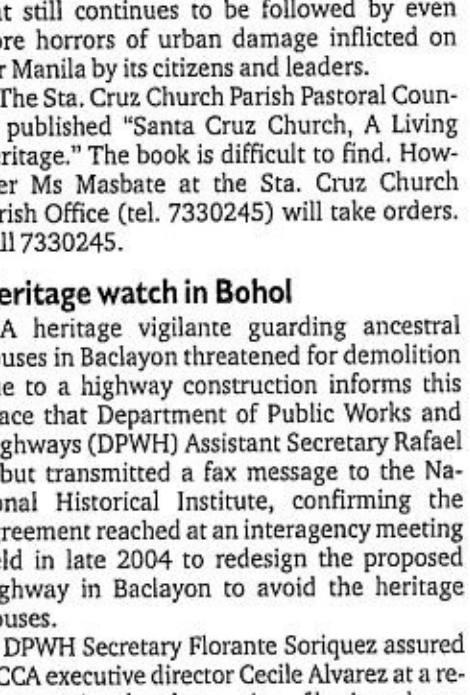
Heritage watch in Bohol

A heritage vigilante guarding ancestral houses in Baclayon threatened for demolition due to a highway construction informs this space that Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Assistant Secretary Rafael Yabut transmitted a fax message to the National Historical Institute, confirming the agreement reached at an interagency meeting held in late 2004 to redesign the proposed highway in Baclayon to avoid the heritage houses.

DPWH Secretary Florante Soriquez assured NCCA executive director Cecile Alvarez at a recent meeting that destruction of heritage houses would definitely not happen in Baclayon.

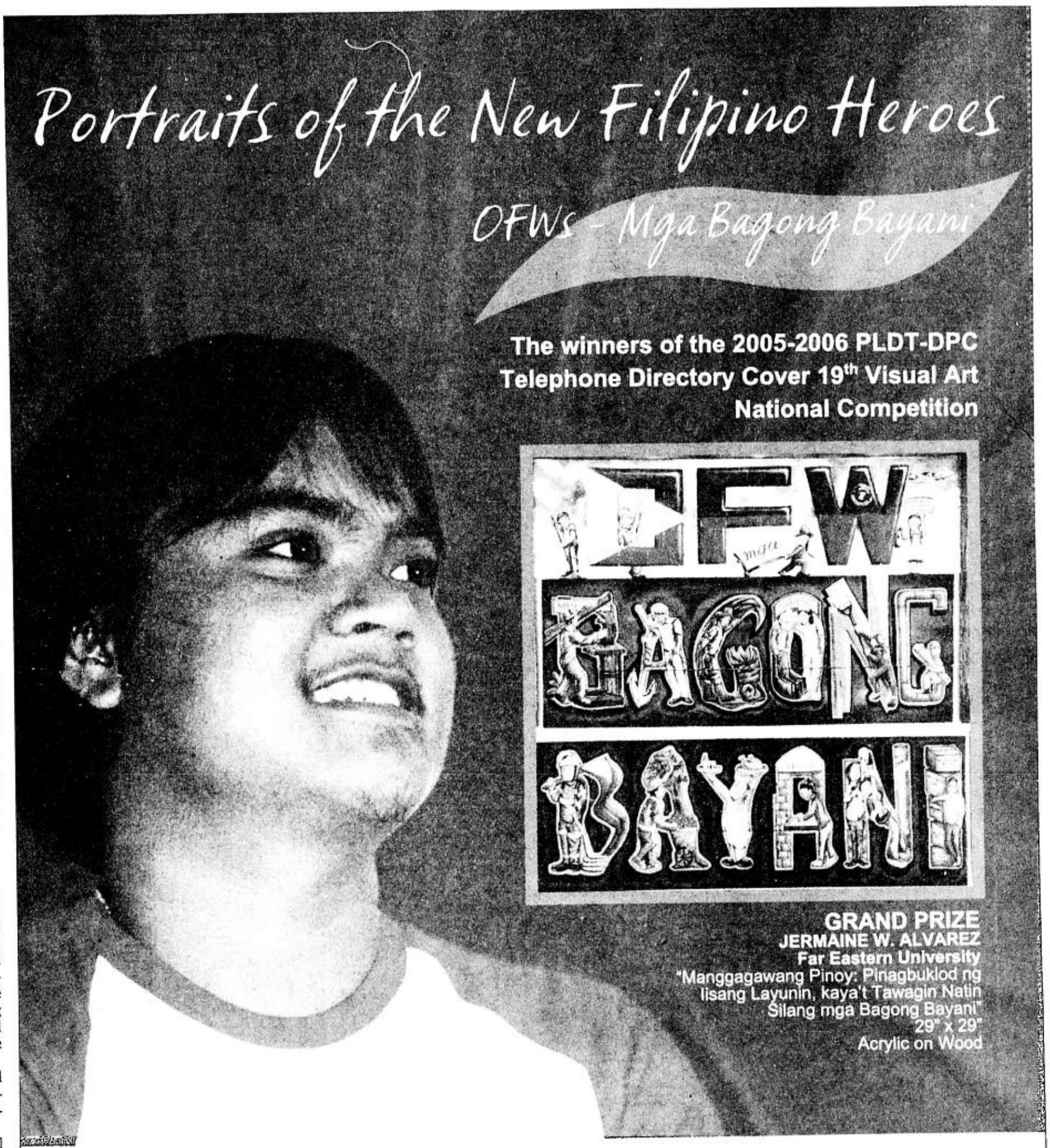
The question remains whether the Bohol DPWH is aware of the assurances made by their Manila superiors.

E-mail feedback to afvillalon@hotmail.com



CANADIAN ARTIST IN FORUM

THE EMBASSY of Canada and Ateneo Art Gallery are holding "Artspeak with Graham Thomposon" on Feb. 16, 4 p.m., at the Ateneo Art Gallery. Thompson is a new media artist and a member of the Metis First Nations indigenous group of British Columbia. Above is "North, South, East, West: Old Cultures, New Media."


Portraits of the New Filipino Heroes
OFWs - Mga Bagong Bayani
The winners of the 2005-2006 PLDT-DPC Telephone Directory Cover 19th Visual Art National Competition
OFW
BAGONG
BAYANI
GRAND PRIZE
JERMAINE W. ALVAREZ
Far Eastern University
"Manggagawang Pinoy: Pinagbuklod ng Iisang Layunin, kaya't Tawagin Natin Silang mga Bagong Bayani"
29" x 29"
Acrylic on Wood

2nd Prize
JUDEO R. HERRERA
Tarlac State University
"Transcendental Value of Love"
24" x 30"
Mixed Media

3rd Prize
REDENTOR L. CASTILLO, JR.
University of Northern Philippines – Vigan
"Pagbabalik ng mga Bagong Bayani, Dala ay Kaginhawaan sa Sariling Lahi"
29" x 29"
Acrylic on Canvas

4th Prize
REX D. AGUILAR
University of the East – Kalookan
"Kilala Ko Sila"
24" x 30"
Japanese Paper

5th Prize
DAVID JOEL R. QUINDOY
E.A.R.I.S.T.
"Flight of the Modern Heroes"
24" x 30"
Mixed Media

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

1st Honorable Mention: GERALD B. MUNGCAL, Tarlac State University, "Unsung Heroes," 24" x 30," Acrylic on Canvas
2nd Honorable Mention: BUEN J. ABRIGO, University of the Philippines, Diliman, "Mga Bayani...(from Left to Right, Top)," 29" x 29," Mixed Media
3rd Honorable Mention: HARI MARTIN G. LUALHATI, University of the Philippines, Diliman, "Halaga ng Bagong Bayani," 29" x 29," Oil on Canvas

The Overseas Filipino Workers, our new heroes. Instrumental in keeping our country up in these trying times. They are this year's theme for the PLDT-DPC 19th Visual Art National Competition as interpreted by 64 student artists from around the country, with five emerging as the top winners. Their winning masterpieces will be featured on the covers of the 2005-2006 PLDT-DPC Telephone Directories.

The entries will be on exhibit at the National Museum, Ground Floor, Museum of the Filipino People, Agrifina Circle, Rizal Park, Manila from February 3 to 27, 2005, Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 am to 4 pm.

PLDT

DPC Directories Philippines Corporation
THE Directory Company

SMART IDD 40¢ a minute worldwide

Make a Valentine's date with your loved ones abroad. Call them with SMART IDD.

Dial + • Country Code • Area Code • Party's Number

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Call the SMART Hotline at 888-1[illegible]
In U.S. Currency. Applicable to over 200 destinations worldwide, excluding INMARSAT.

I ♥ SMART Simply Amazing!

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

LIFESTYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

MANUEL Rodriguez Sr. as National Artist /E1

She paints the colors of déjà vu

ARTIST Marivic Rufino

Deeply influenced by Chinese painting, she paints by memory

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

MARIVIC Rufino deals with different worlds and cope with different roles. She is an artist who continues to evolve.

She has painted for over a decade. She writes a regular column for the Business World. She does her bit as wife of Central Bank Governor Rafael Buenaventura, and, when times allows, she produces a concert here and abroad.

So, if she would divide the stages of her life, the division would be pre- and post-Ms Central Bank Governor.

"Of course, I became less prolific when I became Mrs. Buenaventura," she admits. "I have to take care of a husband who is always under stress because of the nature of his work. I travel with him a lot to attend international conferences, and there's been some ups and downs because of his medical checkups and surgery. That absorbed a lot of my strength and my time."

But in those travels, she actually absorbs art. "I was actually absorbing all the impressions of the places we went through," she says. "I was doubly fascinated by the lights of Paris, sunsets in some Mediterranean cities and sunrise in some Middle East places."

So how was her previous year as an artist?

"It was a stage where I was more like simmering underneath or percolating becausc I was busy with my role as wife of the Central Bank governor. We had so many travels and I couldn't paint as much as I wanted to. I guess I was just bubbling inside and all of a sudden there is this second burst of emotion of colors, and before I knew it, I was busy with my art again."

Two years ago, she joined a group exhibit in Paris with the likes of Sanso and Nena Saguil and the experience doubly enriched her as an artist.

A few weeks before the opening of "Luminescence: Dreamscapes 2005" (Feb. 21-27), where she is exhibiting 25 works at Manila Peninsula, she allows herself what she calls a free-flowing dialogue with friends who are witness to her evolution as an artist.

It has been some three years since her last show and she takes notes of some changes in her life. She likes to think those changes are reflected in her new works.

Changes

Says she: "These changes are expressed in brighter colors, with more fluid lines and some of them distilled and becoming abstract. The colors are more intense whereas I used to paint with pale hues and very pastel. Of course, I still have paintings capturing that mood. I also have very intense shapes now."

Sometime last year, she gifted her husband with large outdoor murals but opened the works strictly for private viewing. "It was actually an extension of my work done in a freewheeling style, but it was still me and there is a lot of freedom there."

A fascinating aspect of this exhibit is that some of her works were done with her eight-year-old grandson, Ryan.

He has actually seen her work since the boy was an infant and so has absorbed some of her style.

Three of these works they painted together. "There is a large painting in the show in one of my dreamscapes and he painted part of the sailboats in the horizon and part of the foreground. It's been fun. My exhibit is fun show in a way and made more fun because the extensions of my art found their way in dividers and chairs and fabrics as part of the exhibit."

She gets more out of that interaction with a younger generation. "I think it brings out the child in me and, in a sense, we were both kids when we did it. He is a child of art and that makes us children of art altogether."

By now, Marivic has a good command of her creative tools.

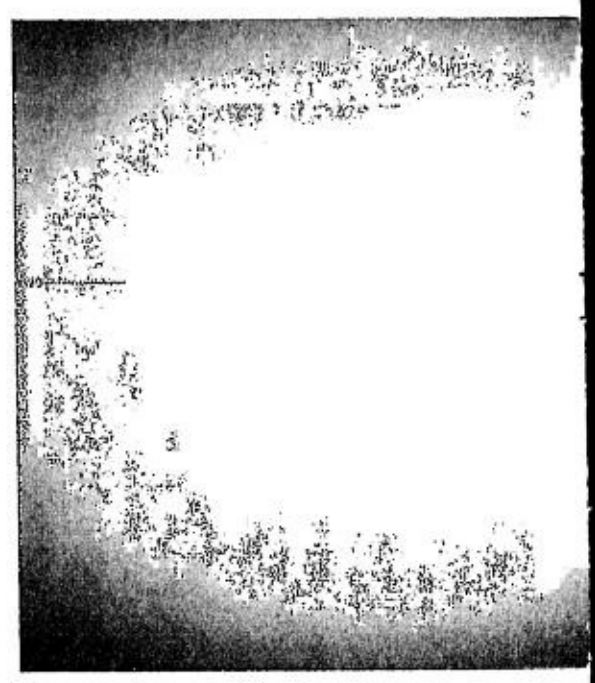
She doesn't paint on the spot, and, deeply influenced by Chinese painting, she paints by memory. And so she paints impressions of different moods and places and surprises herself by capturing turfs she has not been to. "It's like remembering the future," she explains.

"My sense of déjà vu is still there, and the touch painting of so long ago but in a different lifetime. It is quite spiritual."

Strawberry Buttercream Cake
Be Mine!
Love is...
The Goldilocks Strawberry Buttercream Cake.
A deliciously light chiffon cake with vanilla buttercream filling,
topped with delectably rich chocolate roses.
This Valentine's Day, reignite the flames of love in your hearts.
Goldilocks
How Thoughtful. How Pinoy.

BATCH 2000

Artistic promise and complexity in young works



"SOUL

By Jessica Jalandoni-Robillos
Contributor

THE EXHIBIT "Self-Portrait" at the Art Center of Megamall gathers the works of the 2000 Painting batch of the University of St. Thomas.

Organized by abstractionist Lindslee, the exhibition-cum-reunion gathers 21 artists. Aside from Lindslee, they are Jo Austria, Julito Barao, Jeps Belen, Lawrence Borsoto, Nirvan Cantara, Leo Castillo, Alberto Chavez, Ryan de Guzman, Alexie de Torres, Michelle Empleo-Ventura, Pedro Garcia II, Paul Greco, Lindslee, Felix Petel II, Jhoanna Resari, Margaret Rodriguez, Martin Sacramento, Armand Santos, CJ Tanedo, and Jason Tanjuakio.

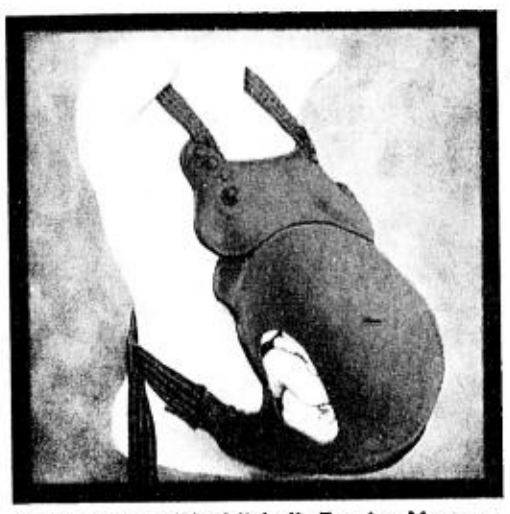
The show is so titled simply to say that each of the artists are identified by their pieces, their identity synonymous with their art.

Only eight are full-time artists. The rest are employed, answering obligations financial, familial and otherwise. But their art-making is never dormant, if only as an escape from the rigors of earning a living.

Castillo's sketch of two people in a wooden boat, for instance, in its bare simplicity, speaks of a serenity that many long for, calm like his almost ripple-less waters, clear enough to reflect the boat and its occupants. In contrast, his square-foot piece, "I," seems to show man badly in need of peace: hand against forehead, the profile indicating fatigue, frustration, sadness.

Lim's renditions of lone women in repose, a reverie, or with a look of longing, also exude a

"PORTRAIT of a Friend," by Sacramento



"RED comfort," by Michelle Empleo-Ventura

certain yearning for peace. Her canvases are strategically thickened with texture, embossings where sprout roses. These may indicate that the faraway stare has to do with the flower-givers.

Also on womanly preoccupations are Michelle Empleo-Ventura's oil-on-canvas works that dwell on motherhood. Against a dappled background of gray is the headless torso of a woman wearing what may be called a "pregnancy harness." The red strap-on superimposes on the woman's body the added volume on the breasts and the girth brought on by a growing fetus, seen through an opening on the left side of the swollen belly.

Motherhood

The literal declaration of the temporary condition may be taken further to refer to motherhood being a choice. The absence of the head seems to imply that for the duration of gestation, the woman should think of nothing but of the growing life in her womb.

The precision in rendition in that work is a far cry from "Merge Linked," an oil on canvas that is a backlit ink rendition of Georges Seurat's "A Sunday Afternoon at Island Grand Jatte." Perhaps by osmosis, it is remarkably reminiscent of her husband Ronald Ventura's compositions.

Sacramento's "Portrait of a Friend" is a profile of a man in front of a speckled wall. "Indoors and Dreaming" is a portion of a man's sleeping face, framed by blotches of color.

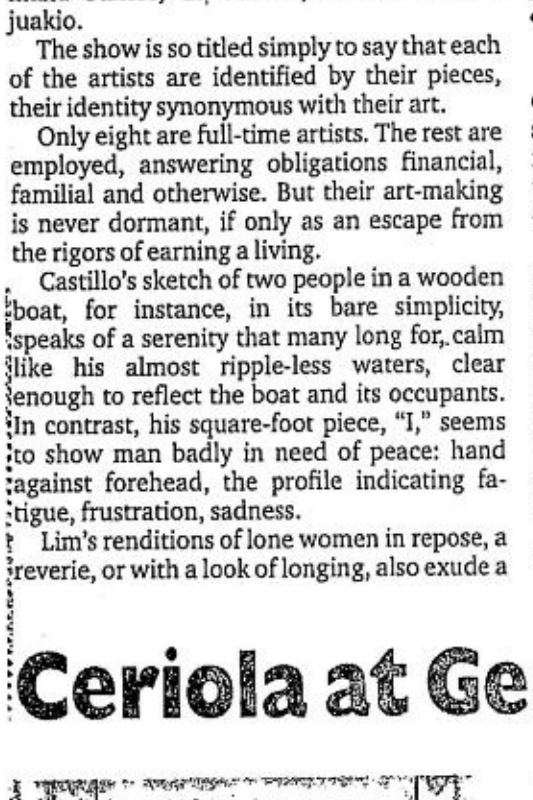
"CLINICALLY Inspired," by Jo Austria

"I WAKE and Feel the Fall of Dark," by Michelle Pauline Lim

There seems to be a fondr
ing subjects against expanses
ture, as in Resari's "Adrift in
Being," where, like a phoeni
flames floats in a sea of red t
Cantara utilizes the bread
as bare space, showing a pai
hands on the lower left cor
beckon to the tiny fairy on th
The prevalent use in Ta
"infinite space," whether
tered or daubed in hues tha
rust and sometimes even s
necessarily imply the putr
but, rather, in the artist's
that the world still holds s
worth living for when s
artist's tinted eyes."
Austria's abstracts, on the
reflections regarding organ
thereof." They are "a simpli
dimensional reality...strippe
bare geometric essentials an
to pure color."
In the case of Lindslee,
white along the periphery
pieces makes his works eve
The impact on the viewer i
one may experience from
works such as "Ancestral."
akin to an hypnotic attracti
moth to a flame.
Indeed, the lure of "Self P
versity of offerings from an a
young talents.

Email author at jejaro200

Ceriola at Genesis, Limpe at 828, Fermin at Negros Museum



"DOG," by Argie Bandoy

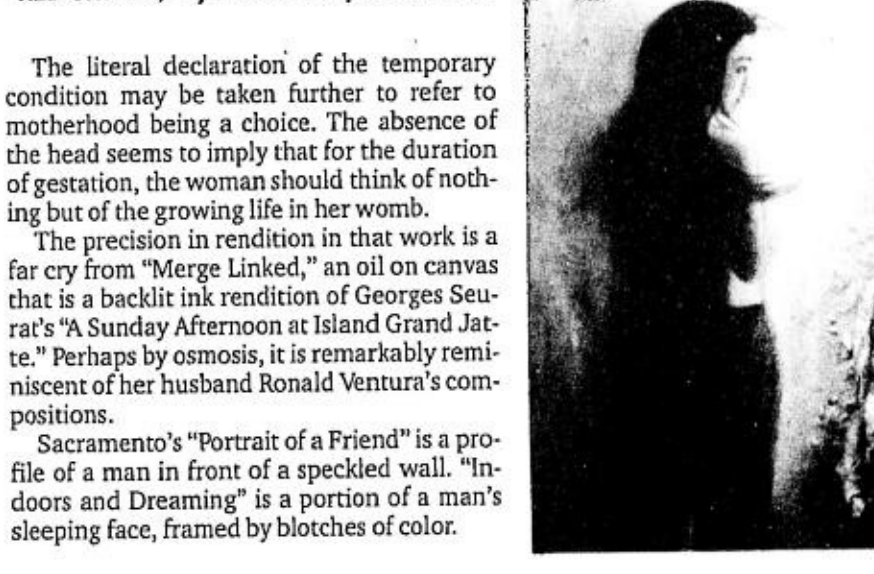
GALLERY Genesis (4/F, Megamall A) presents José Ceriola's "Watercolor Vignettes" until Feb. 24 The collection presents Philippine and China scenes as seen by a Chinese-Filipino. Call 6338137 to 38.

GALLERY 828 showcases Julius Limpe's "Varieties of 2005" on Feb. 16-28 at Shangri-La Plaza, Mandaluyong. In this exhibit, Limpe displays different images rendered in his expressionist style.

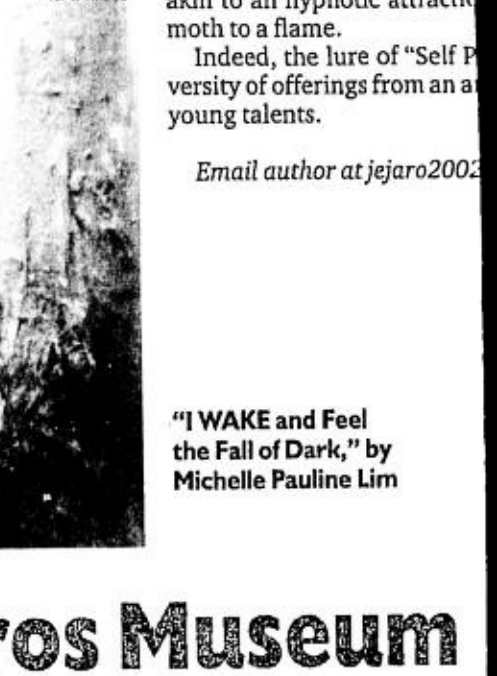
Visual Arts

ANTHONY Fermin opens his exhibit at Negros Museum in Bacolod City on Feb. 18. The artist explores his fascination with harvest and market scenes, his renditions in watercolor and mixed media. Earlier, he exhibited at The Gallery Twenty Four in Berlin, Germany.

SIKAT Group presents "Sikat at Food & Art Galerie: A Group Exhibition of Sikat Artists" until Feb. 26 at Food and Art Galerie (12/F, GT Tower International, Ayala Ave. cor. H.V. de la Costa St., Makati). The exhibit features paintings done in various styles and media. Call 7525678.



"FISH Pond," Series 5, by José Ceriola

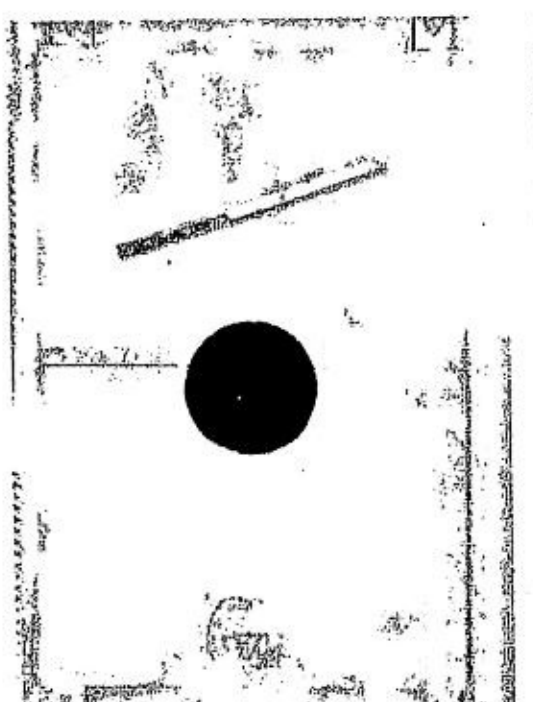


"TILAPIA Harvest," by Anthony Fermin

LINA Llaguno Ciani presents "Telltales," which opens on March 1, 6:30 p.m. at Galleria Duemila (4/L, SM Megamall Bldg. A). This time, Ciani's dream imagery is more romantic. Call 6343261/8319990, telefax 6336687/6343261 or email Duemila@info.com.ph or Duemila@mydestiny.net or see the website at www.galleriaduemila.com.

ARGIE Bandoy presents "Life Was Almost Perfect" at Mag:net Gallery ABS at The Loop (ELJ Center, ABS-CBN Compound, Eugenio Lopez Jr., St., QC), Feb. 18-March 19. Bandoy again draws from his wanderings and materials–rotten chicken bones, used rubber tires, rusted cans and knives, old blankets, body fluids–all falling into a design ordered by their own unique reality. Call 4100995 or send email to magnet@pldtdsl.net.

AYALA Museum presents ivory expert Ricky José in the lecture "An Introduction to the Ivory Exhibit" on Feb. 24, 2 p.m. The lecture is part of the exhibit, "Power + Faith + Image: Philippine Art in Ivory from the 16th to the 19th Century," which features exceptional ivory pieces from Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Intramuros Administration, San Agustin Museum, University of Santo Tomas (UST) Museum of Arts and Sciences, and other collections. José is one of the curators and authors of the catalogue. He teaches under the cultural heritage studies program of UST. Call 7577117 to 21 loc. 14.

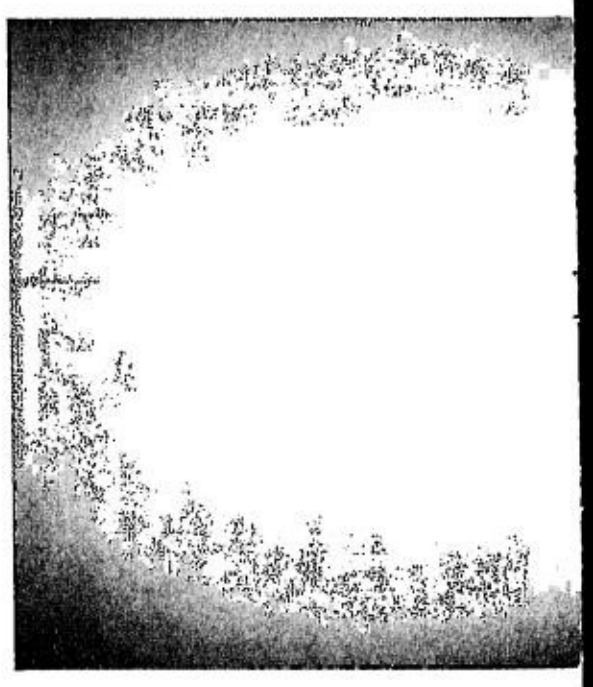


BY LINA Llaguno Ciani

"RED and Zebra Fishes," by Julius Limpe

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BATCH 2000



Artistic promise and complexity in young works

By Jessica Jalandoni-Robillos
Contributor

THE EXHIBIT "Self-Portrait" at the Art Center of Megamall gathers the works of the 2000 Painting batch of the University of St. Thomas.

Organized by abstractionist Lindslee, the exhibition-cum-reunion gathers 21 artists. Aside from Lindslee, they are Jo Austria, Julito Barao, Jeps Belen, Lawrence Borsoto, Nirvan Cantara, Leo Castillo, Alberto Chavez, Ryan de Guzman, Alexie de Torres, Michelle Empleo-Ventura, Pedro Garcia II, Paul Greco, Lindslee, Felix Petel II, Jhoanna Resari, Margaret Rodriguez, Martin Sacramento, Armand Santos, CJ Tanedo, and Jason Tanjuakio.

The show is so titled simply to say that each of the artists are identified by their pieces, their identity synonymous with their art.

Only eight are full-time artists. The rest are employed, answering obligations financial, familial and otherwise. But their art-making is never dormant, if only as an escape from the rigors of earning a living.

Castillo's sketch of two people in a wooden boat, for instance, in its bare simplicity, speaks of a serenity that many long for, calm like his almost ripple-less waters, clear enough to reflect the boat and its occupants. In contrast, his square-foot piece, "I," seems to show man badly in need of peace: hand against forehead, the profile indicating fatigue, frustration, sadness.

Lim's renditions of lone women in repose, a reverie, or with a look of longing, also exude a certain yearning for peace. Her canvases are strategically thickened with texture, embossings where sprout roses. These may indicate that the faraway stare has to do with the flower-givers.

"PORTRAIT of a Friend," by Sacramento

"RED comfort," by Michelle Empleo-Ventura

Also on womanly preoccupations are Michelle Empleo-Ventura's oil-on-canvas works that dwell on motherhood. Against a dappled background of gray is the headless torso of a woman wearing what may be called a "pregnancy harness." The red strap-on superimposes on the woman's body the added volume on the breasts and the girth brought on by a growing fetus, seen through an opening on the left side of the swollen belly.

Motherhood

The literal declaration of the temporary condition may be taken further to refer to motherhood being a choice. The absence of the head seems to imply that for the duration of gestation, the woman should think of nothing but of the growing life in her womb.

The precision in rendition in that work is a far cry from "Merge Linked," an oil on canvas that is a backlit ink rendition of Georges Seurat's "A Sunday Afternoon at Island Grand Jatte." Perhaps by osmosis, it is remarkably reminiscent of her husband Ronald Ventura's compositions.

Sacramento's "Portrait of a Friend" is a profile of a man in front of a speckled wall. "Indoors and Dreaming" is a portion of a man's sleeping face, framed by blotches of color.

"CLINICALLY Inspired," by Jo Austria

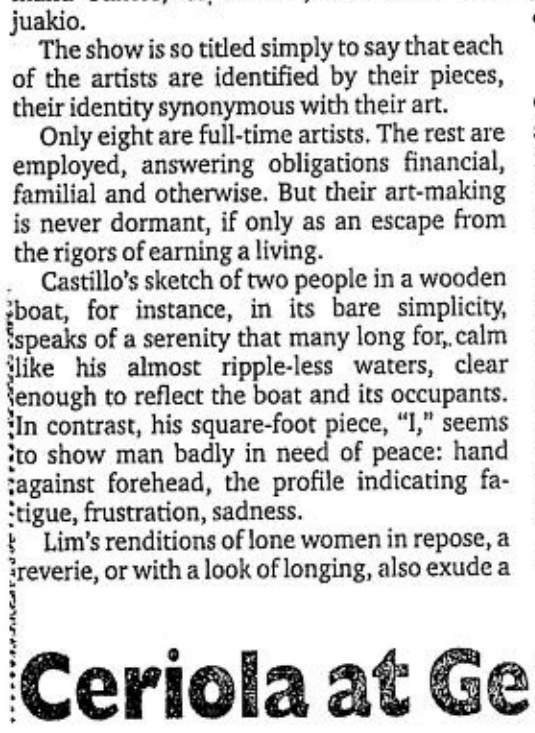
"I WAKE and Feel the Fall of Dark," by Michelle Pauline Lim

"SOUL

There seems to be a fondr
ing subjects against expanses
ture, as in Resari's "Adrift in
Being," where, like a phoeni
flames floats in a sea of red t
Cantara utilizes the bread
as bare space, showing a pai
hands on the lower left cor
beckon to the tiny fairy on th
The prevalent use in Ta
"infinite space," whether
tered or daubed in hues th
rust and sometimes even s
necessarily imply the putr
but, rather, in the artist's
that the world still holds s
worth living for when s
artist's tinted eyes."
Austria's abstracts, on the
reflections regarding organ
thereof." They are "a simpli
dimensional reality...strippe
bare geometric essentials an
to pure color."
In the case of Lindslee,
white along the periphery
pieces makes his works eve
The impact on the viewer i
one may experience from
works such as "Ancestral."
akin to an hypnotic attracti
moth to a flame.
Indeed, the lure of "Self P
versity of offerings from an a
young talents.

Email author at jejaro200

Ceriola at Genesis, Limpe at 828, Fermin at Negros Museum



"DOG," by Argie Bandoy

GALLERY Genesis (4/F, Megamall A) presents José Ceriola's "Watercolor Vignettes" until Feb. 24 The collection presents Philippine and China scenes as seen by a Chinese-Filipino. Call 6338137 to 38.

GALLERY 828 showcases Julius Limpe's "Varietes of 2005" on Feb. 16-28 at Shangri-La Plaza, Mandaluyong. In this exhibit, Limpe displays different images rendered in his expressionist style.

VISUAL ARTS

ANTHONY Fermin opens his exhibit at Negros Museum in Bacolod City on Feb. 18. The artist explores his fascination with harvest and market scenes, his renditions in watercolor and mixed media. Earlier, he exhibited at The Gallery Twenty Four in Berlin, Germany.

SIKAT Group presents "Sikat at Food & Art Galerie: A Group Exhibition of Sikat Artists" until Feb. 26 at Food and Art Galerie (12/F, GT Tower International, Ayala Ave. cor. H.V. de la Costa St., Makati). The exhibit features paintings done in various styles and media. Call 7525678.

GALERIE Joaquin at The Podium is holding "Rooster Paintings" in connection with the Lunar New Year of the Rooster, until Feb 25. The show features works depicting the rooster in various guises, by Norma Belleza, Pandy Aviado, Alicdan, Dominic Rubio, Edwin Tres Reyes, Bernard Vista, Marcial Pontillas, Pancho Villanueva, Richard Arimado, Aileen Lanuza, Vincent de Pio, Mike Velasco, Adonai Artefico and Relle Liwag.

LOUIE Cordero mounts "Electronic Devices in Black Boxes Would Not Need Food" at Finale Art Gallery (SM Megamall) until Feb. 22. His works show an explosion of images cunningly culled from both popular media and low-brow subculture. Cordero renders the images in acrylic on canvas and borrows techniques from local jeepney designs and B movies. His surfaces are flat and desaturated. Call 6342410 to 11.

CHIQUI Rodriguez holds her first solo exhibition, "Chic," until March 20 at Starbucks (6750 Ayala Avenue, Makati). The exhibit consists of 20 paintings which reflect the fusion of the impressionistic and the realistic.

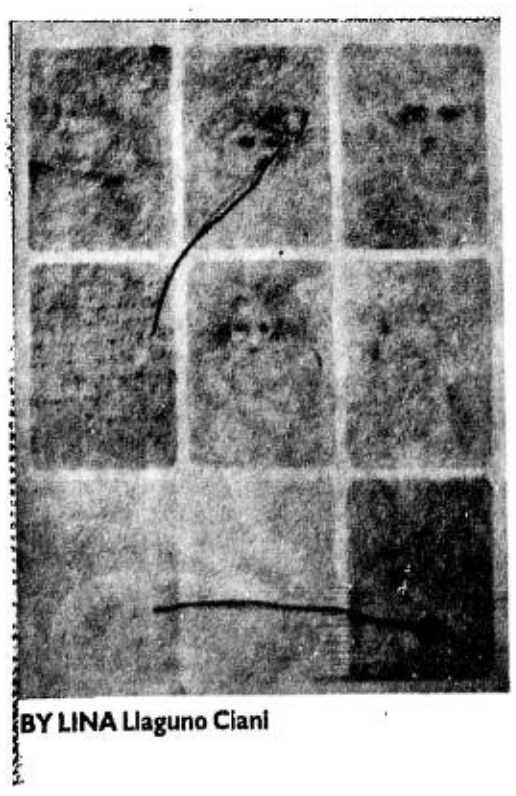
"FISH Pond," Series 5, by José Ceriola

LINA Llaguno Ciani presents "Telltales," which opens on March 1, 6:30 p.m. at Galleria Duemila (4/L, SM Megamall Bldg. A). This time, Ciani's dream imagery is more romantic. Call 6343261/8319990, telefax 6336687/6343261 or email Duemila@info.com.ph or Duemila@mydestiny.net or see the website at www.galleriaduemila.com.

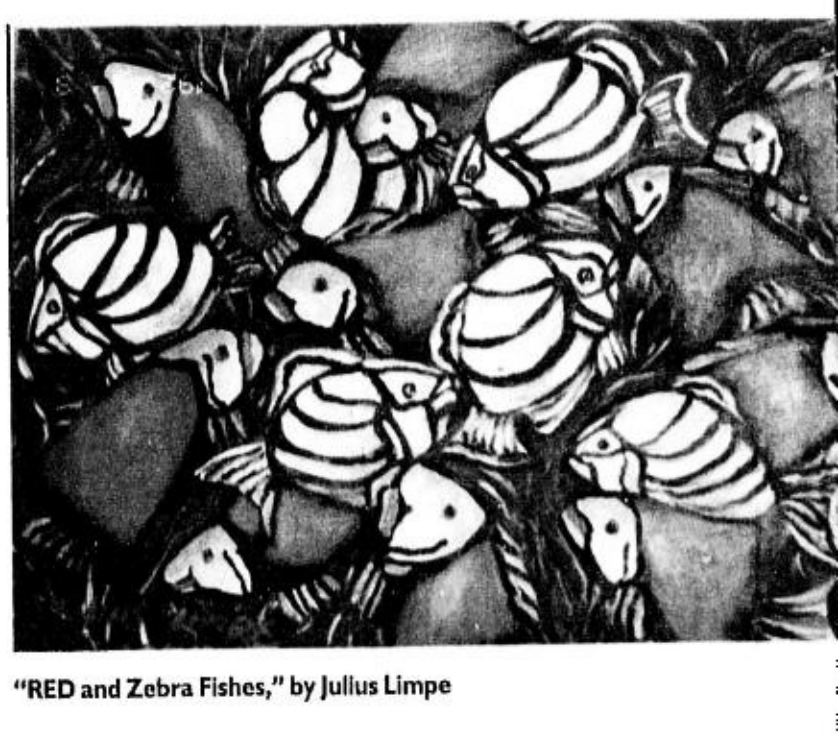
ARGIE Bandoy presents "Life Was Almost Perfect" at Mag:net Gallery ABS at The Loop (ELJ Center, ABS-CBN Compound, Eugenio Lopez Jr., St., QC), Feb. 18-March 19. Bandoy again draws from his wanderings and materials–rotten chicken bones, used rubber tires, rusted cans and knives, old blankets, body fluids–all falling into a design ordered by their own unique reality. Call 4100995 or send email to magnet@pldtdsl.net.

AYALA Museum presents ivory expert Ricky José in the lecture "An Introduction to the Ivory Exhibit" on Feb. 24, 2 p.m. The lecture is part of the exhibit, "Power + Faith + Image: Philippine Art in Ivory from the 16th to the 19th Century," which features exceptional ivory pieces from Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Intramuros Administration, San Agustin Museum, University of Santo Tomas (UST) Museum of Arts and Sciences, and other collections. José is one of the curators and authors of the catalogue. He teaches under the cultural heritage studies program of UST. Call 7577117 to 21 loc. 14.

"TILAPIA Harvest," by Anthony Fermin



BY LINA Llaguno Ciani



"RED and Zebra Fishes," by Julius Limpe

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Searching," by Leo Castillo

ess for juxtapos-
of color and tex-
he Depths of My
x, the head with
nes.
th of the canvas
r of outstretched
ner that seem to
e upper right.
nedo's works of
mottled, splat-
it bring to mind
qualor, does not
id or the fetid,
vords, "to show
omething much
en through an

other hand, "are
ization, or lack
fication of three-
d down to their
d transmuted in-

his use of stark
of most of his
n more succinct.
similar to what
Lao Lian Ben's
The sensation is
n to light, like a

ortrait" is the di-
ray of promising

@yahoo.com.

Canon
Delighting You Always

Top-of-the-line gadgets.
Rock-bottom
monthly installments.

OTHER CAMERAS INCLUDED:

POWERSHOT A400 P699/mo. for 24 mos. 3.2 Megapixels 2.2x Optical Zoom 7x Digital Zoom
POWERSHOT A95 P1,295/mo. for 24 mos. 5 Megapixels 3x Optical Zoom 12x Digital Zoom
POWERSHOT S1 IS P1,595/mo. for 24 mos. 3.2 Megapixels 10x Optical Zoom 32x Digital Zoom
POWERSHOT S70 P1,995/mo. for 24 mos. 7 Megapixels 3.8x Optical Zoom 15x Digital Zoom
POWERSHOT G6 P2,250/mo. for 24 mos. 7 Megapixels 4x Optical Zoom 16x Digital Zoom
POWERSHOT PRO 1 P3,250/mo. for 24 mos. 8 Megapixels 7x Optical Zoom 22x Digital Zoom
EOS 300x/EOS 300x QD P900/mo./P1,025/mo. for 24 mos. 7-point Auto-focus 35 Zone Metering
EOS 20D P4,600/mo. for 24 mos. 8.2 Megapixels 5 FPS Powered by Digic II

Equitable CARD

Promo period from Feb 1-March 15, 2005. Available at authorized dealers nationwide. Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0318 Series of 2005.

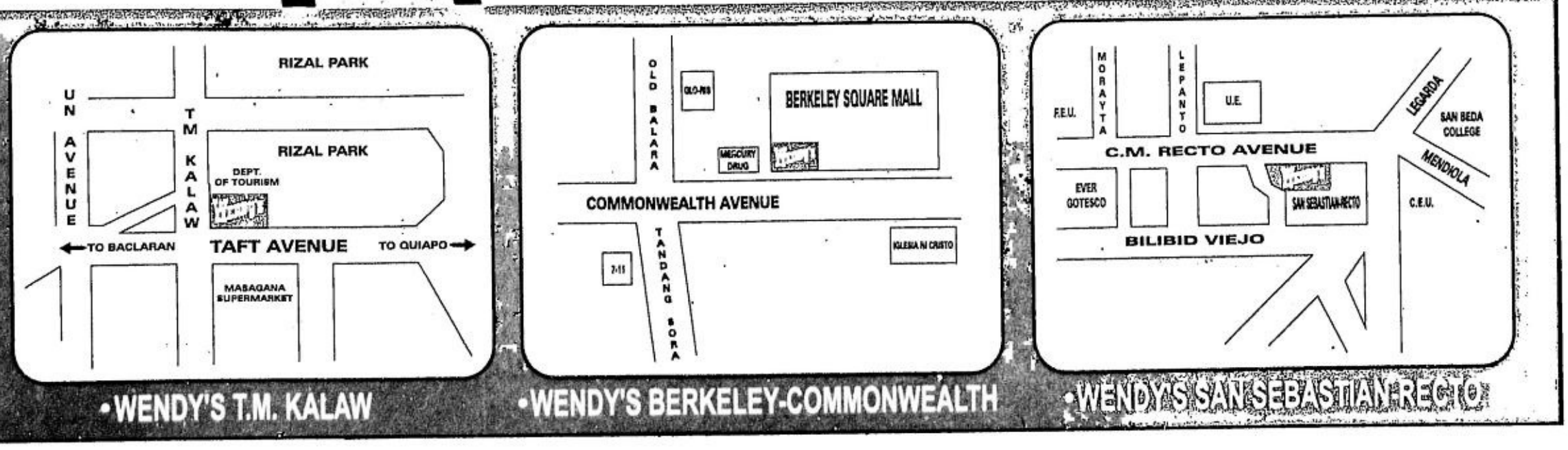
Available at the following dealers: Abenson 631-8161, Accent Micro 634-2417, Ambassador Appliances 633-5224, Avenue 733-5474, AV Surfer 807-3541, Camera Haus 635-6038, Electroworld 633-1624, Island Photo 833-1745, Kameraworld 633-5081, Mobile 1 893-4506, New Canary Photo 727-1687, Photoline 400-0779, Picture City 806-6756, Silicon Valley 633-1724
Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc. 2/F Marvin Plaza Building 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City Tel: (632) 812-6047 loc. 259 Fax: (632) 810-9797

NOW OPEN!

- WENDY'S T.M. KALAW
- WENDY'S BERKELEY-COMMONWEALTH
- WENDY'S SAN SEBASTIAN-RECTO

Now you can enjoy everything you love about Wendy's at our newest locations.
We make everything fresh, from our hot 'n juicy Big Classic® hamburgers and tender juicy Chicken Fillet sandwiches to our exciting salads.
So stop by soon. We'll serve you something delicious.

"Coca-Cola" and the Dynamic Ribbon device are registered trademarks of The Coca-Cola Company.© 2004 The Coca-Cola Company.



•WENDY'S T.M. KALAW •WENDY'S BERKELEY-COMMONWEALTH •WENDY'S SAN SEBASTIAN-RECTO

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

There's an easier way to express your feelings.

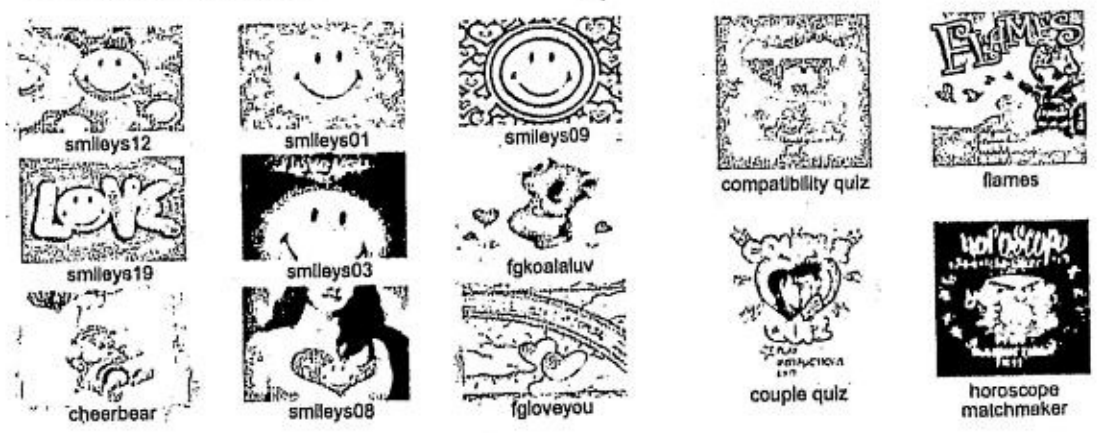
Send him these Valentine downloads from myGlobe!

With Love	Code
Another Used To Be/Joe	RA352
Because of You/K. Martin	EA011
I'd Rather/L. Vandross	RA370
If I Ain't Got You/A. Keys	RA017
No One Else Comes Close/Joe	RA353
Swear It Again/Westlife	RA418
The Gift/J. Brickman	RA346
Your Love/J. Brickman	RA350
Can't Help Falling In Love/Elvis	RA052
Come Away With Me/N. Jones	EA013
Eternal Flame/Atomic Kitten	EA205
Here I Am/Air Supply	RA059
She's The One/R. Williams	EA248
This I Promise You/N'SYNC	RA036
You Light Up My Life/W. Houston	RA105
214/L. Mejares	RA219
Ako'y Sa 'Yo Ika'y Akin/Itaxe	DA628
A Little Bit/MYMP	TA081
Balisong/Rivermaya	IA121
Don't Know What To Do/L. Salonga	RA271
Hey It's Me/J. Rivera	EA080
How Did You Know/Gary V.	IA297
Now That I Have You/Company	IA293
I'll Never Break Your Heart/ Backstreet Boys	RA019

Tickled Pink	Code
Weak/SWV	RA395
All For You/J. Jackson	EA136
Fell In Love With A Boy/J. Stone	EA144
I'm With You/A. Lavigne	RA021
Kiss On My List/Hall & Oats	RA073
One Love/Blue	EA219
Signed, Sealed, Delivered/Blue	EA133
Walking OnSunshine/Katrina	EA097
Rainbow/South Border	TA035
Everything You Want/ Vertical Horizon	RA009
Someone To Call My Lover/ J. Jackson	EA135

Blue Heart	Code
This Love/Maroon 5	RA037
Unbreak My Heart/W. Houston	RA402
Don't Know Why/N. Jones	EA029
Everytime/B. Spears	RA008
Hands To Heaven/Breath	EA292
Right Here Waiting/R. Marx	EA026
Ayoko Na Sana/A. Rivera	RA222
Bluer Than Blue/R. Velasquez	EA065
Cold Summer Nights/Francis M.	EA180
Let Me Be The One/J. Bondoc	RA213
Wag Na Wag/K. Nadal	PA576

carebear5 carebear6 carebear7 carebear8



For more daily downloads:
Text MENU SMILEYLOVE to 2375 for the day's list of Smiley Valentine's contents
Text MENU FIESTALOVE to 2375 for the day's list of Fiesta Greetings Valentine's content

Activate MMS and GPRS on your phone now!
1. For a list of compatible handsets, send NOKIA, ERICSSON or SAMSUNG (depending on your handset model) to 2365. Regular text messaging charges apply.
2. Text GO <handset model> to 2951 to get your phone's settings. Ex. GO N3650. For Nokia 6170, 6630, 6230, 6600, 6820, 6260, 7200 and 7610 text GO <handset model>,,1234 to 2951. Make sure that you type in the two commas before the 1234 PIN.
3. Enter 1234 when asked for PIN to save the settings.
4. Send an MMS message for only P3.00 to activate the service.

For LOVE HandyQuizzes, go to the myGlobe WAP site, click on 'Main', select 'Multimedia', then select the 'HandyQuizzes' link or the 'Personal Genie' links.
Rate: P30.00/HandyQuiz

Rate per download: P15.00 for icons and textcards, P20.00 for colored wallpaper and animated greeting cards, P30.00/30 days for Ringback

To forward to a friend:
Text MCARD <keyword> <recipient name/sender name> <recipient cell no.> to 2375
Ex. MCARD carebear5 Romeo/Juliet 09171234567

www.SMILEY[illegible].com FIESTA GREETINGS

making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE

SMILEY ... all rights reserved.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2005

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

LIFESTYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

NATIONAL ARTIST RACE ON

Manuel Rodriguez Sr. in much awaited homecoming

By Gino Dormiendo
Contributor

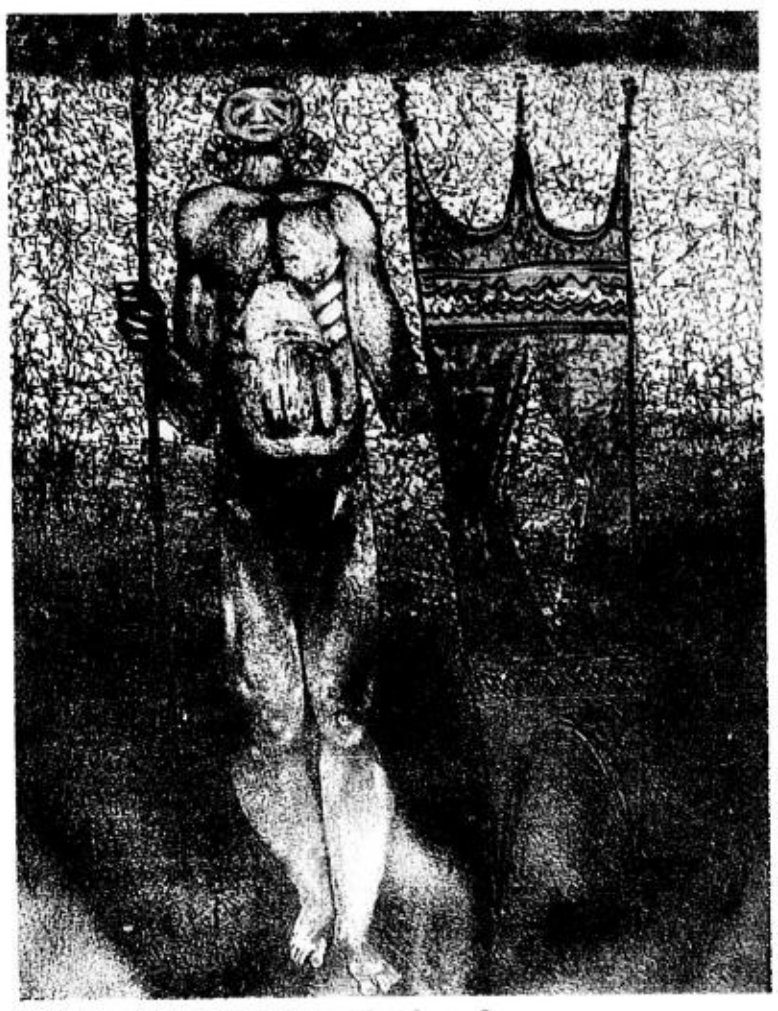
FIRST, the good news. We have been tipped off by a most reliable source that Manuel Rodriguez Sr. is definitely coming home after many years of living as an expatriate in New York, United States.

We were told that though Mang Maneng, as he is fondly called, has dual citizenships, he wishes to spend the remaining years of his life in his country, in the company of friends and associates who still remember the golden years of printmaking.

The bad news is that the homecoming trip may not be as easy as it seems for the acknowledged Father of Printmaking. Now in his mid-90s, Rodriguez Sr. has been away for ages and the planned retrospective of his lifetime work may not even take place at all.

His manager, Eva Florentino, wife of the playwright Albert Florentino, who is also based in New York, is still finishing the tome on the old man and the book has been plagued by endless delays.

RAUL Isidro at work on monoprints



"IGOROT Warrior," by Manuel Rodriguez Sr.

Many of Mang Maneng's works have been stashed in the bodega of an art dealer, presumably in bad shape and in dire need of a massive cleanup. The problem is mostly logistical. No one has offered to pick up the tab for the trip, the book and the show.

The good news is Rodriguez may get to become National Artist, says Raul Isidro, whose group, the Printmakers Association of the Philippines (PAP), has nominated him.

As to be expected in the visual arts, there are many nominees with perennial contenders Diosdado Lorenzo, Francisco V. Coching and Larry Alcala, who are all gone, still vying for the slot.

Add the names of Eduardo Castrillo, nominated by the Art Association of the Philippines, and Ben Cabrera, a shoo-in for the country's highest honors, and we have a truly formidable field this year.

> Holding dual citizenships, the Father of Printmaking has been nominated to the Order of National Artists

Also deserving

Isidro also deserves to be nominated for National Artist. He has been at the helm of the PAP for several terms now, and it is, hands down, the country's best art group, both in track record and its laudable projects.

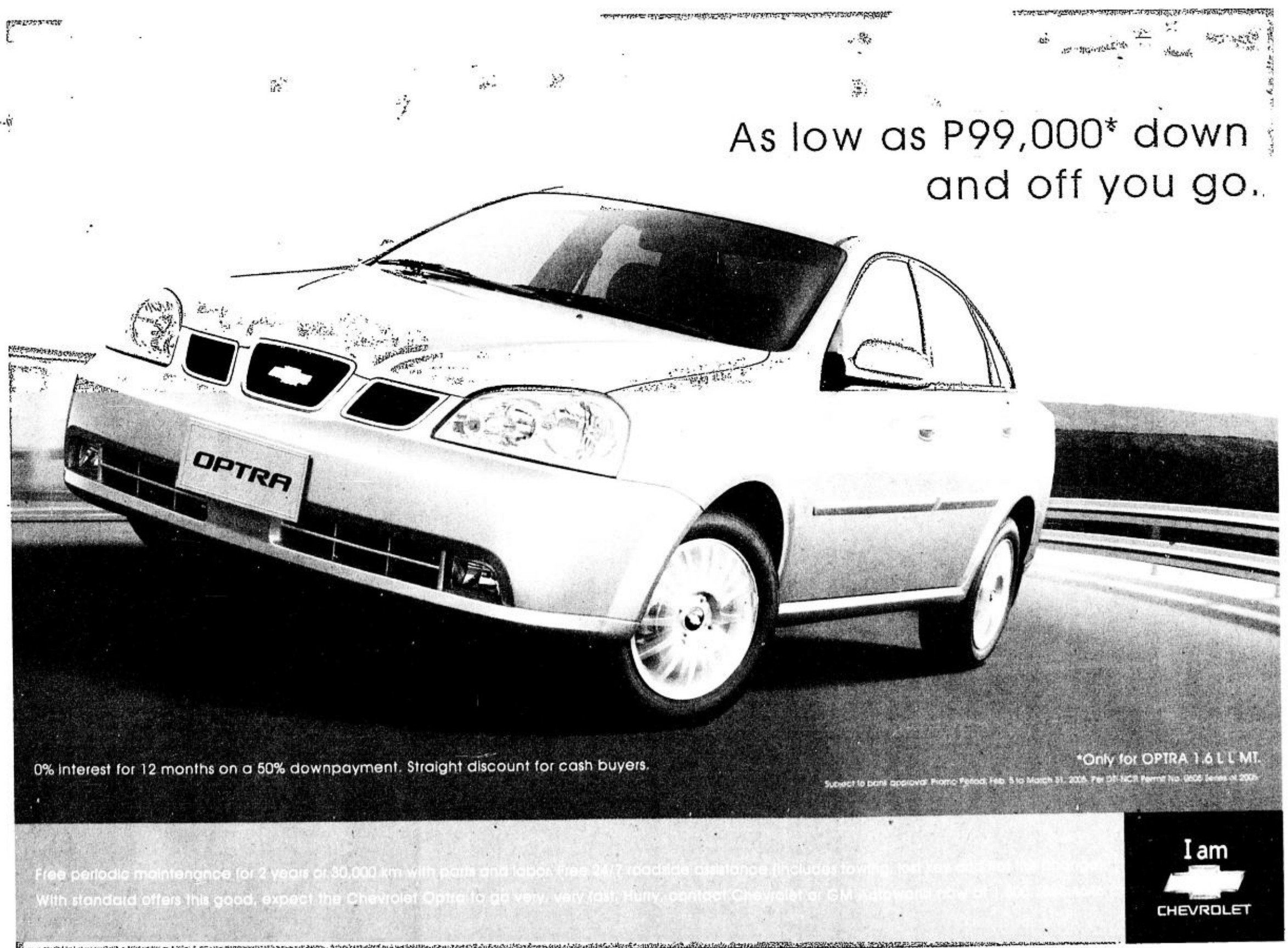
A teacher and former dean at Philippine Women's University, he has been a constant source of inspiration to fellow artists, especially those who have held on to their medium despite the lure of painting and mixed media.

Though Isidro has also been engaged in various media, he has worked hard to promote the fine art of printmaking, particularly monoprint, in the country. His most laudable project is the nationwide tour of Bakat ng Limbag, which has been to 13 different sites across the archipelago in the last two years, teaching aspiring printmakers how to use the machine (with the help of portable presses the PAP developed) and learn the various techniques of the graphic arts.

Isidro is unrelenting in pursuing the association's avowed goal of developing a new generation of printmakers, which he believes is the most appropriate medium for the country. He is personally committed to educate the public in the medium even as he is continuing to evolve as artist.

Now in his 60s, he still keeps a rigorous working schedule, his output prodigious and his art always exciting and profound.

For feedback, e-mail author at gdormiendo@yahoo.com


As low as P99,000* down
and off you go.
OPTRA
0% interest for 12 months on a 50% downpayment. Straight discount for cash buyers.
*Only for OPTRA 1.6 L L MT.
Subject to bank approval. Promo Period: Feb. 5 to March 31, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0605 Series of 2005
Free periodic maintenance for 2 years or 30,000 km with parts and labor, free 24/7 roadside assistance (includes towing, text yes
With standard offers this good, expect the Chevrolet Optra to go very, very fast. Hurry, contact Chevrolet or GM Autoworld now of
I am
CHEVROLET
GM Autoworld MAKATI 867.8113 to 17 / BGC 1976 • GM Autoworld QUEZON AVE. 374.1250 to 59 • GM Autoworld SHAW 535.4944 / 533.8378 / 533.1263 • Chevrolet PASIG 672.1612 to 14 • Chevrolet ALABANG 771.1206 to 09 • Chevrolet PAMPANGA (045) 963-3331 • GM Autoworld CEBU (032) 2340426 • Chevrolet DAVAO (082) 300 77 • Chevrolet NORTH EDSA 374 9992 to 97/374 9

STAY TRUE AND TEXT EVERYDAY SWEETHEART

This Valentine's, text your love abroad at P10 per SMS on G-Plan and P15 per SMS on Globe Prepaid. Send to (+)(country code)(mobile number)

making great things possible Globe

Apostle of self-reflexivity

By Constantino C. Tejero

AFERVID intellectualization of art has been occurring in certain quarters. The ordinary gallery-goer stepping into an exhibition area for a simple aesthetic experience may be disconcerted to find himself trapped in an intellectual engagement.

Some artists—more or less young, thus still have a lot of exploration to do—are pushing to the limit and in various directions the idea of "art as embodied meaning." So much so that it results in another form of contemplation of one's navel.

In this respect, nothing could be more self-reflexive than "Cognitive Confiscations," Benjo Elayda's nine pieces in oil and one digital print recently displayed in The Big & Small Art Co. at the Artwalk, L/4, Bldg. A, SM Megamall, Quezon City.

More than anything, every artwork here is about itself: its conception, creation, being and attributes. The whole exhibit appears like a showcase of European modern art circa early 20th century.

It is, in fact, a visual exegesis of Western art theories from Duchamp to Malevich. The intellectualization is reinforced by the rhetorical artist's statement posted on the gallery wall, and by the pieces' rather high-flown titles, mystifying in their allusiveness.

Elayda says it's his way of "reconfiguring images and reworking certain techniques and approaches of the modern masters."

As with any postmodernist concoction, what we have here are revisions and reinterpretations. An innocuous picture or familiar image properly tweaked can achieve unheard-of resonance.

Power of arrangement

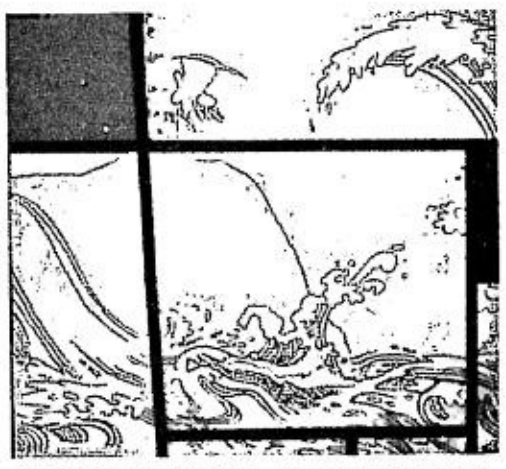
A prime example of Elayda's deconstruction, his art's self-reflexivity, and what he calls "cognitive confiscation" (simply, knowing appropriation) would be the show's centerpiece, "In the Spirit of Mention," a mural-size, scroll-type digital print.

A grayish top view of skyscrapers is superimposed with floating blue and golden-brown images of Leonardo's Mona Lisa, a Renaissance Madonna, three directional arrows, a wooden triangle, a strange-looking bird, and the inscriptions *La Gioconda, L.H.O.O.Q, R.A.S.E.E.*

Elayda explains the inscriptions refer to Duchamp's titles for his satirical reworkings of the "Mona Lisa." The avian image is both bird and rabbit, the icon symbolizing dual perception and relativity, touching on a theory of representation and the psychology of perception. The triangle, a flat picture with a three-dimensional illusion, signifies the power of particular arrangement in art.

"Confiscating a Kelly (Transcendental Accessories Not Included)" has overlapping planes of red, blue and green, with a blood-red central image, framed by a lancet arch, of a line drawing of a weeping maiden and four geese in front of a severed head of a horse nailed on the wall, streaming with tears and blood.

"CONFISCATING a Kelly"



"NEO-PLATONISM Conflates with Taoism"

The planes of flat color are from Ellsworth Kelly, specifically from the Post-Painterly specimen "Red Blue Green Yellow." The use of line-drawing illustration Elayda says he has appropriated from Picabia more than Duchamp.

He refers to the French Dadaist's interlapping and transparency series. This mating of discordant elements, he adds, is an overlooked aspect of Picabia's art-making.

Merging of philosophies

"Neo-Platonism Conflates with Taoism," in red, yellow, sap-green and moss-green, reproduces the grid pattern of Mondrian's "Composition." By superimposing on it an olive-green line drawing of a Chinese painting of an old man on a promontory contemplating the waves, Elayda fuses Oriental and Western aesthetics.

"Metaphysician's Soap" is an abstraction, in cobalt-blue, turquoise, umber and black, but superimposed with a storybook illustration of Prince Charming and the Fair Maiden.

"Reiterating a Baselitz (Existential Accessories Not Included)," in avocado-green with umber underpainting scattered with connected black dots, looks like textile print. Frankly, we don't know which aspect of Baselitz's work it is alluding to. And what's with that parenthetical clause?

"Malevich Lost His Artgum" is backgrounded with two planes in white and gray, the paint brushed so that it attains a scraped look. Outlined in orange on the pictorial field is a uniformed boatswain arranging the mooring line. Circles of green, brown, red, yellow, ochre, turquoise and ultramarine float like balloons in a children's party.

Elayda says he is referring here to Malevich's circles, and speculating what the Russian Suprematist would be painting were he to work today. "Under the current thinking about art and the world, Mondrian et al. would have been motivated to de-essentialize their art."

Immersion in theories

This concept of image-making is repeated in varying degrees in the other pieces.

"Forgetting to Forget Generic Painting," in tawny brown, shows a subliminal nude and its solarized reproduction in turquoise.

Similar to it is "Picture from Lower Model," but in olive-green and black, showing a sitting nude, its fuzzy reflection and a red outline of another nude which could also be seen as an ogling face.

"Picturing Metaphysics" is another abstraction in slate-green, ochre, umber. The overpainting gives the piece texture and the look of an ethnic weave.

Similar to it is "Picture from Higher Model," but now rendered in yellow-green, ochre, sap-green, black and brown.

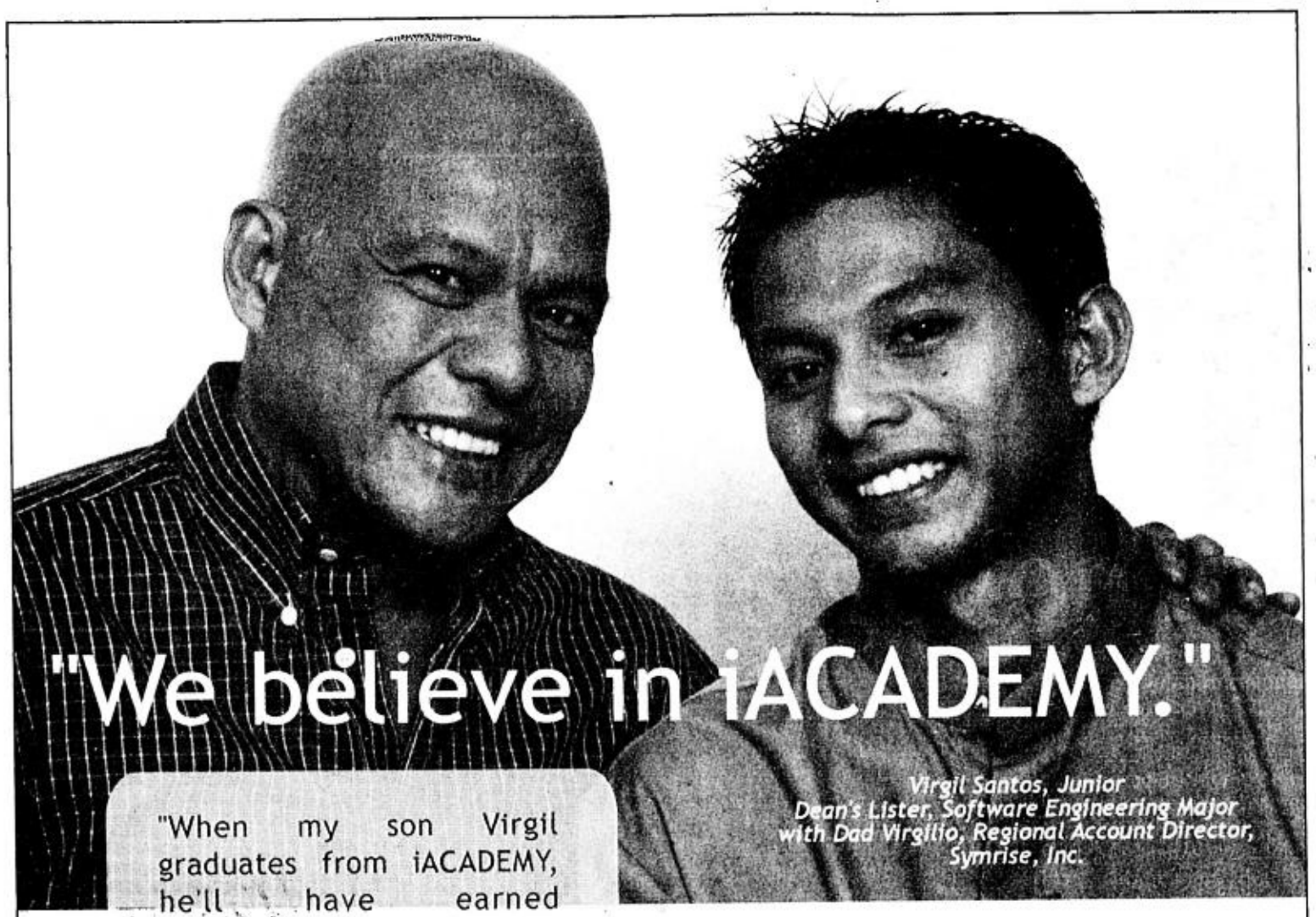
Highly intellectualized, this is art that can only come from someone deeply immersed in art theories.

Elayda majored in Painting at Ford Academy of the Arts in Davao City. He has yet to finish his master's in Art History at University of the Philippines in Diliman.

He has been teaching Painting, Art Theory and Philippine Art History at the Institute of Architecture and Fine Arts of Far Eastern University.

In 2002, he won the Jurors' Choice at the Asean Art Awards in Bali, Indonesia.

"IN THE SPIRIT of Mention"


"We believe in iACADEMY."
Virgil Santos, Junior
Dean's Lister, Software Engineering Major
with Dad Virgilio, Regional Account Director,
Symrise, Inc.

"When my son Virgil graduates from iACADEMY, he'll have earned international certification from IBM and other top IT vendors, gained 8 months of real work experience, and built a network of top IT and business professionals who are his former professors at iACADEMY.

iACADEMY will then look for international and local jobs for him through its global placement partner, GROW, Inc.

I don't think any other school can match these merits from iACADEMY. We're glad we didn't settle for ordinary, traditional education from 'leading' schools in the country!"

If you want the same quality of education for your child, enroll him at iACADEMY.

iACADEMY

IBM-POWERED COURSES

B.S. Computer Science
major in Software Engineering

B.S. Computer Science
major in Network Engineering

B.S. Information Technology
major in Digital Arts

B.S. Information Technology
major in eCommerce

B.S. Business Administration
major in eManagement

Entrust your child's education with us.
iACADEMY's distinguished Board of Governors

Felipe B. Alfonso
Former President, Asian Institute of Management
Vice-Chairman, Manila Electric Company

Monico V. Jacob
Managing Partner, CEO's Incorporated

Vitaliano N. Nañagas II
Chairman, Development Bank of the Philippines

Mel V. Velarde
Chairman and CEO, Next Mobile, Inc.
UNESCO Commissioner

Eusebio H. Tanco
Chairman, Philippines First Insurance Corporation

Mitch M. Andaya, Dean
Dean, I.T. - iACADEMY
Former Dean & Professor, De la Salle University

Washington Z. SyCip
Founder, SGV Group

Teodoro L. Locsin, Jr.
Respected Journalist
Representative, 1st District of Makati

Peter L. Wallace
President, The Wallace Business Forum

Lorna P. Kapunan
Senior Partner, Kapunan, Migallos, Perez and Luna Law Offices

Jerry C. Angping
President
Angping and Associates Securities, Inc.

Peter K. Fernandez
Dean, Business Management - iACADEMY
Former CIO, Asian Institute of Management

Tommy B. Lopez
President, University of Makati
Professor, Asian Institute of Management

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICANTS FOR JUNE 2005. ACADEMIC & FINANCIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE.

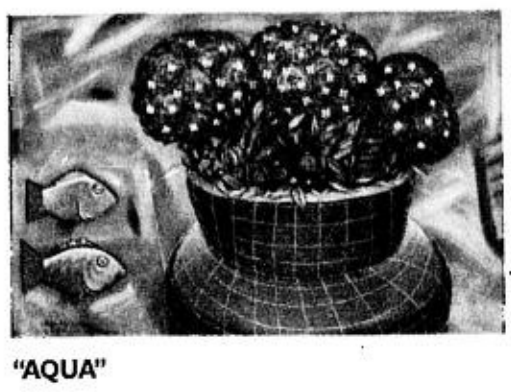
Call 891-3865 / 891-3727 Application forms are available at the iACADEMY Campus : 3/F Phil. First Bldg., 6764 Ayala Avenue, Makati City Email: inquire@iacademy.ph Apply online at www.iacademy.ph

Raul Lebajo in exultant exhibit

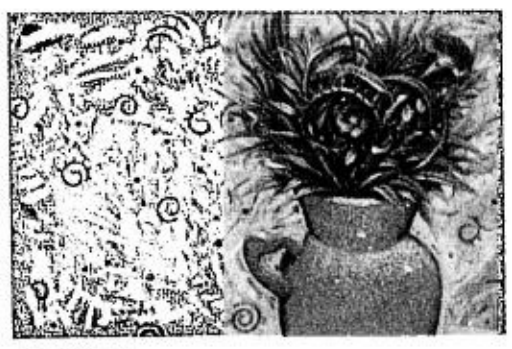
INTERNATIONALLY acclaimed artist Raul Lebajo will have an exhibit of his recent paintings at Galerie Joaquin-San Juan starting Feb. 16. Titled "Fortune Plant and Other Paintings," the show is Lebajo's 24th one-man-exhibit and features 20 paintings from the reclusive artist. The show opens at 7 p.m. and runs until Feb 28.

Aside from nine shows at the prestigious Luz Gallery, six at Galleria Duemila and three at The Drawing Room, Lebajo successfully exhibited in Germany, the Silpakorn Art Center in Bangkok, the Chicago Cultural Center, the Hong Kong Museum, The Plaza in Basel, Switzerland, The FNCB (now Citibank) Corporate Center in New York, the Beaux Arts in Paris and the National Art Gallery in Kuala Lumpur.

Lebajo is known as a foremost surrealist painter. He uses his strong imagination to explore the unconscious, which he correlates with everyday objects recognizable by the conscious. "Fortune Plant and Other Paintings" reveals an exultant Lebajo having triumphed over his recent bouts of lung illness. The colors are vibrantly, scintillating oranges, reds and blues. Although the subjects are flowers and plants, they are uniquely Lebajo's own creations. They are ethereal, bulbriously jumping from the canvas.



"AQUA"



"BUKAD"

THE ARTIST

"FORTUNE Plants"

Lebajo was born in Tacloban, Leyte, in 1941. He took up studies at the University of the East and graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Fine Arts at the Philippine Women's University in 1969. While still in school, he won gold and silver medals at the 1967 Shell Art competition. He held his first one-man show at the Solidaridad Galleries in 1969.

In 1980, Lebajo began painting and drawing in the surrealist style. He admits to being influenced by Belgian surrealist Rene Magritte and Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. Articles of him have appeared in the Asian Art News and the Paris magazine, Beaux-Arts.

Joaquin is located at 371 P. Guevarra St. and Montessori Lane, Addition Hills, San Juan. Call 7239253 or 7239418.

Disney's
ART ATTACK
THE COIN BOX FOR ART ATTACK SHOPPING!
KEEP THOSE EMPTY BOXES AND CONSTRUCT A CITY!
FACE OF A CATERPILLAR
HOLIDAY SPECIAL

Do-it-yourself pencil box in new issue of Art Attack

KIDS can make their own pencil boxes and save mom and dad a few pesos.

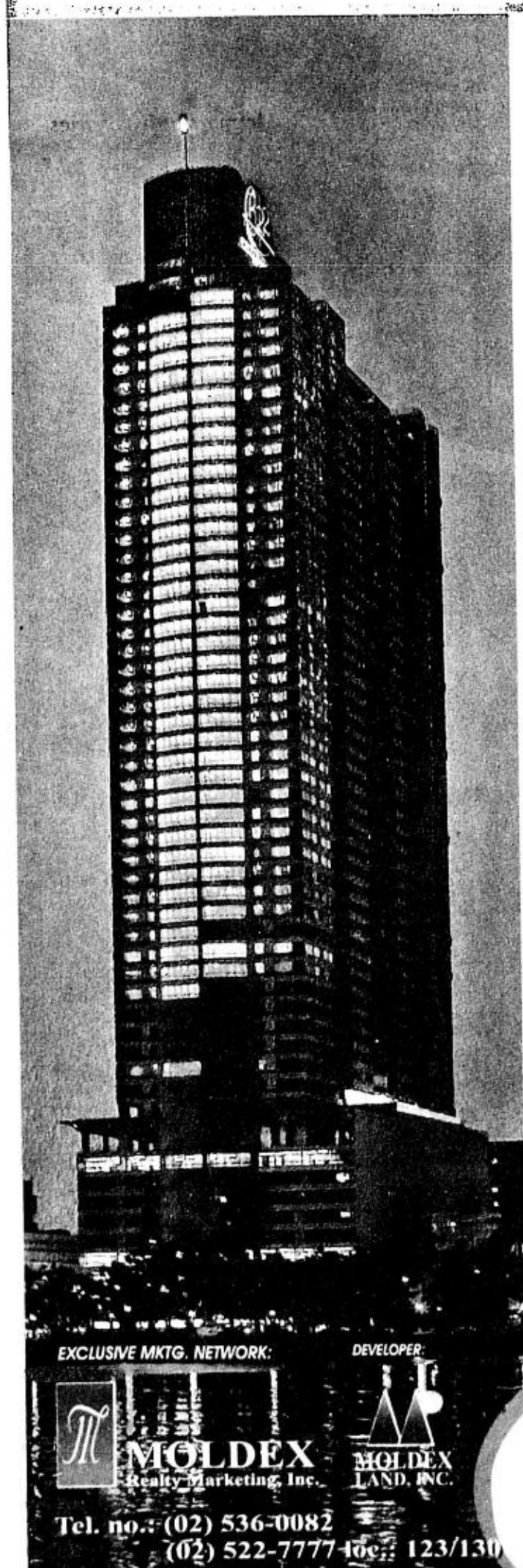
Available in the second issue of the much-awaited Disney's Art Attack Magazine, the do-it-yourself pencil box cum coin bank can be done even by preschoolers. The magazine is available in National Book Store outlets for only P100.

The second issue provides students pages of crafts and games and some nifty facts and figures. Sure to tickle the fancy of youngsters is the Tricks & Company section which includes some magic tricks and challenges. It even has a recipe for a snack called Chocofish.

Art Attack Magazine is the only English version of the popular show on Disney Channel hosted by Neil Buchanan, who teaches and demonstrates artworks and creative activities in the show.

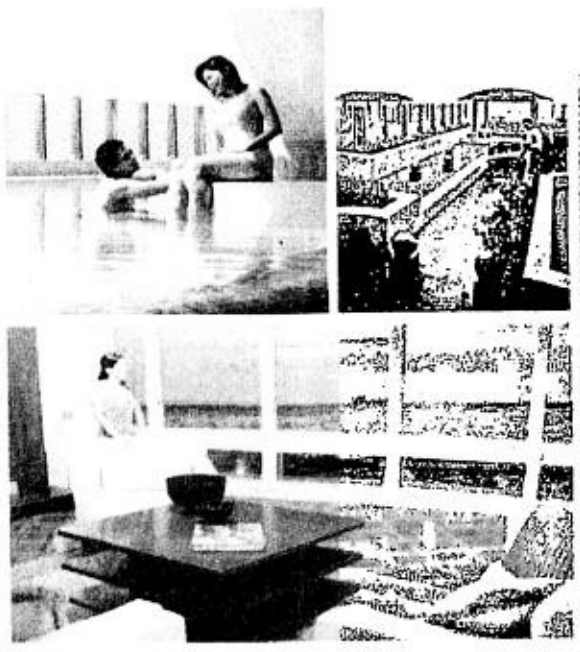
It is published by Marathon Publishing Co. Inc., the firm behind the successful Baby Magazine via a license from Fun Characters Inc., the marketing licensee of The Walt Disney Co. Call 7283655 to 56

NOW READY FOR OCCUPANCY.

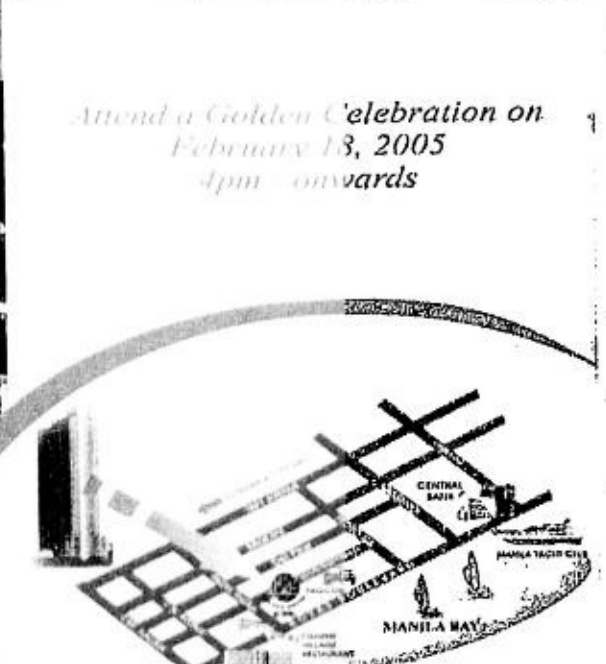


Ultimately, the tallest, most prestigious condominium by the bay

1322 GOLDEN EMPIRE TOWER



Attend a Golden Celebration on February 13, 2005 4pm onwards



EXCLUSIVE MKTG. NETWORK: MOLDEX Realty Marketing, Inc.
DEVELOPER: MOLDEX LAND, INC.
Tel. no.: (02) 536-0082
(02) 522-7777 loc. 123/130

BC CHINABANK
Since 1920

GRATEFUL at 85
ANNIVERSARY PROMO

GRAND PRIZE
P2.85 MILLION

Celebrating 85 years of partnership with an outpouring of prizes

As your partner for almost 85 years, we at China Bank are overflowing with gratitude for your continued trust and support. In appreciation of this long and fruitful partnership, we offer an outpouring of prizes as we celebrate our 85th anniversary on August 16, 2005!

1. Get a raffle number every month
   - For every P5,000 monthly ADB (Regular Savings, ChinaCheck Plus, MoneyPlus Account)
   - For every US$500 for China Bank Dollar Savings Account.
   - For every P500,000 availed HomePlus or AutoPlus loans.
2. More chances to win in 4 Preliminary Draws and Grand Draw - all non- winning raffle numbers qualify for succeeding draws and Grand Draw.
   - Four chances to win a Savings Deposit Account worth P85,000, one of 85 cellphones and one of 85 DVD players.
   - Plus, a chance to win a home entertainment system, videocam, getaway package and P2.85 million cash prize in the Grand Draw!

1 Winner of a HK Tour for 2 with pocket money in the Grand Draw

1 Winner of a Sony VideoCam in the Grand Draw

1 Winner of a Samsung Home Entertainment Package in the Grand Draw

It's so easy to join! More chances to win!
Open an account or avail of a housing or auto loan now!

CASH & GADGETS GALORE IN 4 EXCITING DRAWS!

4 Winners of a Savings Deposit Account worth P85,000.00 in the 4 Preliminary Draws

Total of 85 Winners of a Sony DVD Player in the 4 Preliminary Draws

Total of 85 Winners of a Samsung, Sony Ericsson, Panasonic and Nokia Cellphones in the 4 Preliminary Draws

Forward to 85

PROMO PERIOD: December 2, 2004 to July 31, 2005
PRELIMINARY DRAWS: •February 23, 2005 •April 26, 2005 •June 23, 2005 •August 16, 2005
GRAND DRAW: August 16, 2005
See flyers for details Per BIR-NCR Permit No. 5964, Series of 2004

Visit us at www.chinabank.ph
BC CHINABANK Since 1920

BancNet
PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
Deposits insured up to P250,000 per depositor
Your success is our business

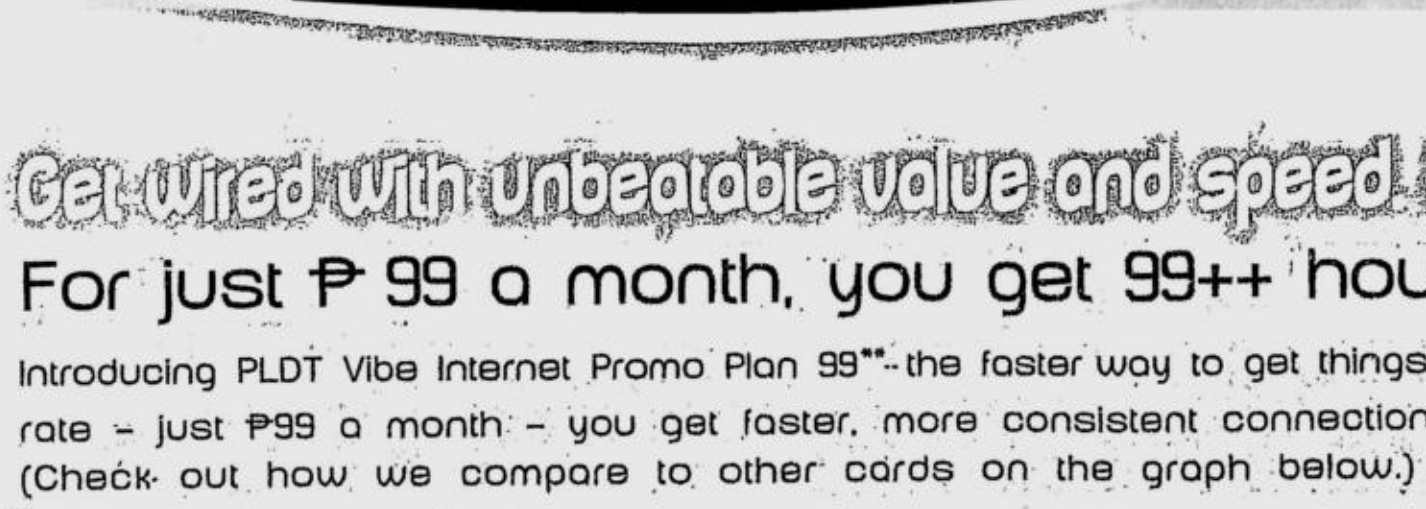
PLDT Vibe Internet

Get wired with unbeatable value and speed. PLDT Vibe Promo Plan 99.

For just ₱ 99 a month, you get 99++ hours* of internet access.

Introducing PLDT Vibe Internet Promo Plan 99** - the faster way to get things done on the net. For the lowest postpaid rate – just ₱99 a month – you get faster, more consistent connections than other top prepaid internet cards. (Check out how we compare to other cards on the graph below.) Apply now before you get left behind.

Which would you choose?



PLDT Vibe (in red), which was faster and more consistent on at least 11 of 14 days of testing

or

other ISPs (in green and aqua blue) that simply can't keep up

Test conducted in accordance with standards verified by ***Computerworld Philippines*** and ***PC World Philippines***, the country's leading Information, Communications and Technology (ICT) publications.

Apply for a VIBE CONSUMABLE PROMO PLAN 99 until April 30, 2005. See flyers for details. Offer good within Metro Manila and Luzon only.

* Includes peak and off-peak hours
** Months 1 to 3 - ₱ 99/month; Months 4 to 12 - ₱ 220/month

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 6068, Series of 2004

call 17 or visit www.pldtmypad.com

PLDT

MEMBERS of PHSA Rondalla Ensemble

'The group must be small and intimate so they can get to know one another... We want to help the next generation'

The young musicians' hour

By Amadís Ma. Guerrero
Contributor
Photos by Kiko Cabuena

"WHEREVER I go, I see Filipino musicians. They're everywhere, they're all over the world. And they're so talented," enthused Thailand's Chulamanee Chartsuwan, a cultural exchange director of the Asia-Europe Foundation.

"And that is why," she added, "the foundation decided to hold its first Asia-Europe Music Camp here in the Philippines."

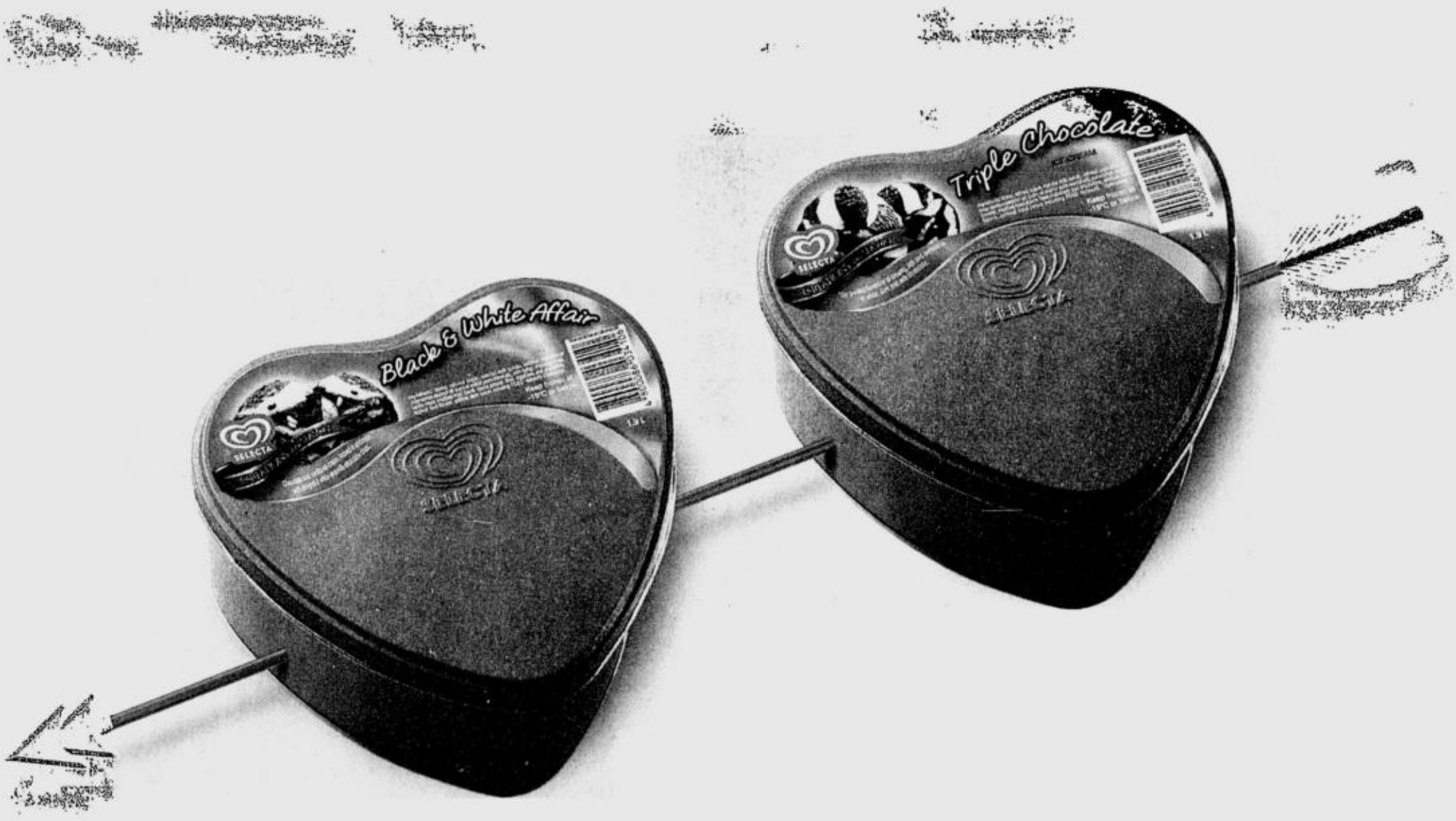
Specifically, at the National Arts Center (NAC) in Mt. Makiling, Laguna. The NAC shares the complex, which is located on a scenic slope overlooking Laguna de Bay, with the Philippine High School for the Arts (PHSA).

The recently concluded Music Camp brought together young instrumentalists and composers from Belgium, China, Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, South Korea, Lithuania, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, and Thailand.

The artistic director of the Music Camp was Robert Casteels, a Singapore-based Belgian composer and conductor, with Filipino composer-conductor Chino Toledo as the associate artistic director.

"We train young artists," said Chartsuwan. "The group must be small and intimate so they can get to know one another. We work with universities and ask them to nominate participants. We want to help the next generation, we want to nurture young talent."

THE YOUNG/ F2



Fall in love twice. Only this Valentine's.

Introducing Selecta's Creations of the Season Limited Edition Chocolate Series. Get them before they're gone.

SELECTA

COME HERE I NEED AFFECTION

This Valentine's, text your love abroad at P10 per SMS on G-Plan and P15 per SMS on Globe Prepaid. Send to (+)(country code)(mobile number)

making great things possible Globe

YOUNG performers in "Panakayon sa Palanublion"

CCP outreach program marks 25 years

By James P. Ong
Contributor

THE OUTREACH and Exchange Program of the Cultural Center of the Philippines recently celebrated its 25th year with three major affairs, titled "Pilak," in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

In the Visayas, the affair was held in Iloilo, with some assistance from Cebu Pacific and Smart. The three-day affair also saw the kick-off of the centennial anniversary of host-campus Central Philippine University. The highlight of the event was "Panakayon sa Palanublion" ("Journey to Heritage), a two-hour grand musical spectacle participated in by 12 groups from all over the Visayas region, with over 150 performers.

The musical depicts the symbolic journey of teenager Erik "from cultural alienation and estrangement to recognition and acceptance of his cultural traditions."

Raised by his strict, conservative grandmother, Erik runs away from home and joins friends in a pleasure trip that takes him to key Visayan provinces, each alluded to as either the Island of Pleasure (Boracay), of Prosperity (Cebu), of Subversion (Samar) and of festivals (Panay). In the end, he learns that there is no way he can escape his cultural identity.

The role was ably played by Carl Anthony Delmo, a second year high school student under Iloilo National High School's special program for the arts.

Alice Tan Gonzales, who wrote the musical said it was strung together by the *komposo*, "the most resilient type of folk ballad" that is also native to the Visayas. Gonzales said she wrote the musical with the goal of "offering the idea that we have a rich heritage and that being a member of the new generation doesn't mean shunning traditions."

In his inspirational remarks, CCP artistic director Fernando Josef praised the event and said he was more than convinced the Visayans are world-class artists. He also warned of the negative effect of globalization: "Local culture has become endangered."

He told the participants to continue being proud of Filipino traditions and to never stop believing in the greatness of our people. He also encouraged theater groups and cultural workers to "do art that serves people, not for commercialization. For art must be relevant."

Josef also called on the different art sectors–visual and performing–to unite as a sector in order to professionalize the industry.

The CCP Outreach Program was formed in 1979 to develop and bring arts beyond the confines of the CCP complex in Manila. It was mandated to provide quality cultural performances to the widest geographical reaches possible.

Through the years, the outreach program, despite changes in leadership and objectives, has kept firm on that goal, and made it more relevant to the current situation.

One of its more important plans now is to come up with strategies to ensure a sustainable artistic and cultural development. "We must do something so we can get real income and be able to raise our family through the practice of art," said

A SCENE from "Pepe en Pilar," GTF's entry to the National Theater Festival, and considered as one of the best plays of 2004

Bountiful theater from Gantimpala

GANTIMPALA Theater Foundation (GTF) marks its 27th season as a theater company with an established reputation for plays that educate and entertain at the same time.

The company continues to produce its Four Classics, musical plays, National Artists series and TheatreNow productions on its own, without support from the government or corporate sponsorships.

For the month of February, GTF celebrates the National Arts Month with its twin-bill offerings of plays derived from short stories written by National Artists for Literature: Nick Joaquin's "May Day Eve" and Dr. Alejandro · Roces' "Kiko's Super Cock," (now known as Super Manok).

The plays will run February 11 (10am), February 12 and 13, 9am/12nn/3pm) and February 27 (10am/2pm) at the AFP Theater in Quezon City. Both plays are written for the stage by Jose Victor Torres under the direction of GTF President and Artistic Director Tony S. Espejo.

Starring in the production are Bodjie Pascua, Angie Panogan, Adriana Agcaoili, Noel Rayos, Ruby Solmerano, Billy Parjan, Ruel Oda, and Joey David.

The 27th season is also milestone for GTF as it has done over 100 performances of all its production titles, specifically Kanser (Noli Me Tangere), El Filibusterismo, Florante at Laura, Ibong Adarna, Pepe En Pilar, the TheatreNow productions of Ang Tahanan ni Bernarda Alba and Laro, and the outreach musical play Grethology.

These plays have been shown to more than half-a-million private and public high-schools from Metro Manila and the provinces of Cavite, Laguna, Urdaneta and Cabanatuan.

After the National Artists Production Series, GTF will hold its Summer Workshops from April 4 to May 14.

Call 5280603/5365860 or write to Gantimpala Theater Foundation, 2/F Open-Air Auditorium, Concert at the Park, Luneta, Manila.

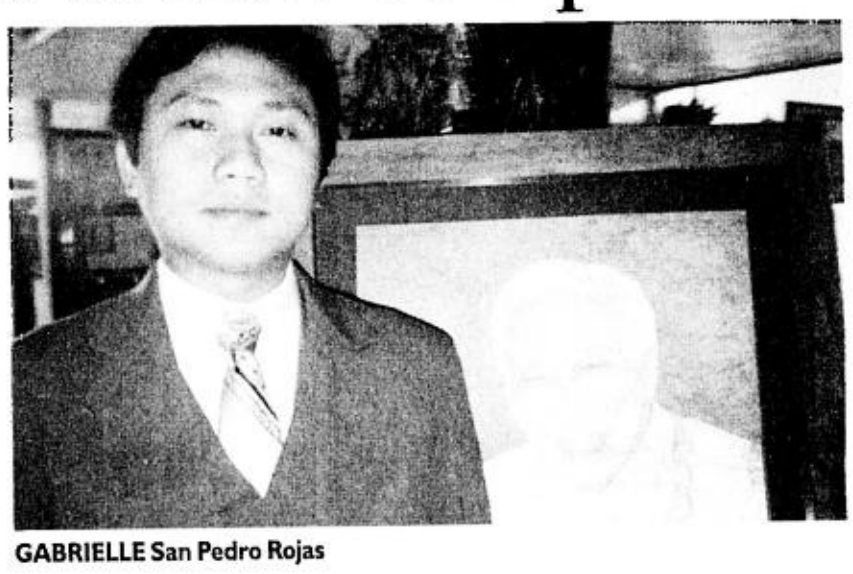
CCP recital of new composer

GABRIELLE San Pedro Rojas, grandson of the late National Artist Lucio D. San Pedro, will play his original compositions in a graduation recital at the CCP's Tanghalang Nicanor Abelardo on Feb. 19 at 8 p.m.

Titled "Ode to Maestro Lucio D. San Pedro," the concert will feature Rojas' works in piano with voice and violin, band, film music and chorus to be performed by the Angono National Symphonic Band (ANSB) along with Chorus Philippines under choirmaster Joy Nilo, the UP Manila Chorale, the Coro de San Sebastian, and the Saint Paul College Choir. Featured soloists are soprano Ma. Luisa Javier and baritone Lionel Guico.

The highly-acclaimed ANSB, will also perform stirring marches, waltzes and overtures composed in honor of the late musical master.

The concert's highlight is the "Kung Tuyo Na ang Luha Mo Aking Bayan," a piece for band, chorus and baritone which is inspired by one of the celebrated poems of National Artist for Literature Amado V. Hernandez.



GABRIELLE San Pedro Rojas

A student of Prof. Alfredo Buenaventura at the Sta. Isabel College, Rojas is a full scholar of the late Eugenio Siapuatco and a former member of the Manila

Youth Symphony Orchestra under Prof. Basilio Manalo. A conductor of the ANSB, he is heir to the Maestro's musical obligations to his hometown of Angono and custodian of San Pedro's compositions.

The concert also marks the 92nd birth anniversary of the late National Artist.

Admission is free. Call 0919-2661933.

The young musicians' hour

From page F1

One of the criteria is that the young musician or composer must be fluent in English. Among the objectives of the Music Camp are to hone the talents of the participants, and to get them to appreciate cultures of other member countries.

During a press luncheon on the first day, participants performed on the native instruments of their countries: Thailand's Pattara Komkam on the *pinai* wind instrument; Korea's Ye-Jim Kim on the *hae-geum* (stringed instrument); Ireland's Sile Denvir on the Irish harp; and Spain's Roberto Oliviera on the drum.

And there were the Rondalla Ensemble and the Ethnic Ensemble, with their gongs and nose flutes, of the PHSA.

The week was filled with activities for the participants, including workshop sessions; reading sessions; workshops on the native instruments; rehearsals; attendance at concerts in Metro Manila; and even a night out in Remedios Circle, Malate.

One of the delegates is Chinese composer Shen Ye, 27, who is a product of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. He showed us his new composition, "Shades of Opera II: Two Silhouettes."

The work is influenced by traditional Chinese opera. The first part focused on Qing Yi, "the demure young female," while the second part was about Chou, "a buffoon character type."

The notations were Western, as in do-re-mi. "Chinese compositions now have Western notations," Shen pointed out. "But for Chinese instruments, the notation is Chinese."

"Two Silhouettes" was one of seven original compositions presented at the culminating concert on Feb. 8 at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, which featured the creative output of the participants.

The others were "Dancing Delusions" by Nilo Alcala of the Philippines; "Icore" by Goncalo Lourenco of Portugal; "En Route" by Americ Goh of Singapore; and three by the Philippines' Bob Aves: "Binalig," "Panangpit," and "Holdoyon Kuy Diwata."

The next venue of the annual event will be Ireland.

SILE Denvir of Ireland plays with her Irish harp.

ORGANIZERS and participants take time out for a souvenir shot.

ROBERT Oliviera of Spai performs with Kim Ye-Jin of Korea.

Ballet Manila stages 'Carmen' and 'Giselle'

MACUJA-ELIZALDE and Barroso in "Giselle"

BALLET Manila will stage romantic ballets for the month of hearts.

The fiery "Carmen" and her sentimental Don Jose are the first to tell their story on Feb. 18, 19 and 20; and the innocent "Giselle" and her forbidden love, Lord Albrecht, will tell theirs on Feb. 25, 26 and 27—at the Star Theater of Star City.

The double treat may be the final opportunity to see artistic director Lisa Macuja Elizalde and artistic associate Osias Barroso in two of their most cherished roles. Guest artist is Nashville Ballet's Christopher Mohnani, who's returning for a rare and special performance.

Included in the first weekend's program are "In Quest," "Deconstructing Gershwin" and two surprise numbers.

Complete your evening with a free "Ride-All-You-Can" bracelet for every purchase of a ticket to any Ballet Manila performance.

Call 4043086/4000292/5255967. Visit www.balletmanila.net or e-mail info@ballet-manila.net.

LISA Macuja-Elizalde and Osias Barroso as Carmen and Don Jose, respectively, in Eric V. Cruz's "Carmen"

Young ballerinas at Vibeca

RENÉE Andrea "Andi" Arellano, Joanne Rae Santos, Kristiana Louise Abaa and Francine Monina "China" Mariazeta are some of the young girls being groomed to become future ballerinas at Vibeca Ballet.

They train under the tutelage of the country's finest ballet and dance instructors, in a school known in the local ballet scene for its personalized approach to teaching and in its quest for producing world-class Filipino dancers.

"Since she started walking, Andi was already fond of dancing," says Ette Arellano, Andi's mother. "It would have been a mistake not to have her take ballet, which is the best foundation for all forms of dance. My husband and I thought it would also be nice for Andi to have her own healthy activity that would set her aside from her three older brothers. Besides being an exercise, we feel her early exposure to classical ballet will help increase her knowledge and understanding of music."

At Vibeca, "the facilities are beneficial to the students and very efficient for their learning. The teachers are competent and the people in the school are very friendly, including the other parents and the administration," says Josephine Santos, mother of Joanne Rae.

The school's regular run of dance recitals exposing students to the joy of performing is also an activity that has convinced parents to enroll their students at Vibeca.

The studio, located at the ground floor of the AMO Bldg., 92 New York St., Cubao, Quezon City, is very accessible to nearby residential areas.

"It's a very convenient place since it's just a few blocks away from our house. It's a dance studio where I know my child can express her desires and willingness to learn the dance," says Kristine Abaa, Kristiana Louise's mother.

On China's part, "my daughter has become more flexible and graceful," notes her mother Winnie Mariazeta. "She has become more sociable, able to relate to other people. Of course, the discipline instilled in her through the classes is very admirable. She now listens to authority and follows instructions, and enjoys other productive activities aside from playing and watching TV."

"Ballet training made my daughter gain confidence and it has improved her personality. Her training has changed the way she carries herself. She now has poise," adds Josephine.

Call 9124283, 9126781 or 9957441.

KRISTINE Abaa and 5-year-old daughter Kristiana Louise (above) and Ette Arellano with 6-year-old daughter Andi (right)

WINNIE Mariazeta and 5-year-old daughter China

Bayanihan main attraction in shopping festival

THE BAYANIHAN, the Philippine national dance company, was one of the main attractions of the Dubai Shopping Festival at the Global Village Amphitheater.

During their stay, Bayanihan directors Suzie Benitez, Ferdinand Jose and Melito Vale Cruz also conducted a lecture, dance and music workshop titled "Teaching and Touching Lives."

Dubai, part of the United Arab Emirates, has held the annual month-long shopping festival since 1996. It aims to develop the city as the tourist capital of the Middle East.

The Dubai Shopping Festival was conceived as a pure retail event, aimed primarily at revitalizing the retail trade in the emirate. It was later developed into a comprehensive tourism event.

Every year, Dubai Shopping Festival lines up activities that are in keeping with its theme "One World, One Family, One Festival."

Bayanihan's trip and gala performance was sponsored and organized by the Philippine Business Council United Arab Emirates under chair Lucille A. Ong, the Global Village and the Bayanihan Folk Arts Foundation chaired by Ambassador Alfonso T. Yuchengco.

This year's performing artists were Janice Albores, Elmer Ardiente, Marielle Benitez, Rowena Bicaldo, Maggie Mae Castro, Leo Elepano, Mary Anne Escurel, Charmagne Garcia, Laurence Leong, Leo Lorilla, Mary Anne Luis, Robbie Manayan, Rolly Manayan, Girald Manuel, Melvin Manuel, Sam Marcelino, Tina Martinez, Nikki Meneses, Noel Muyot, Flowbert Orbacedo, Richard Recto, Rogelio Sambrano, Kristina Sto. Domingo and Rhea Villegas.

BAYANIHAN, the country's premier dance company

PRIMA

Canon
Delighting You Always

Take a shot at Love!

This Valentine's Day, Canon showers you with hugs, kisses and FREE CHOCOLATES!

Get free Hershey's Kisses when you buy a Canon BF-800 camera. It's one Valentine treat that'll satisfy your loved one's sweet tooth. Get free film and batteries too! Go to your nearest Canon dealer and catch this sweet deal now..

PRIMA BF-800

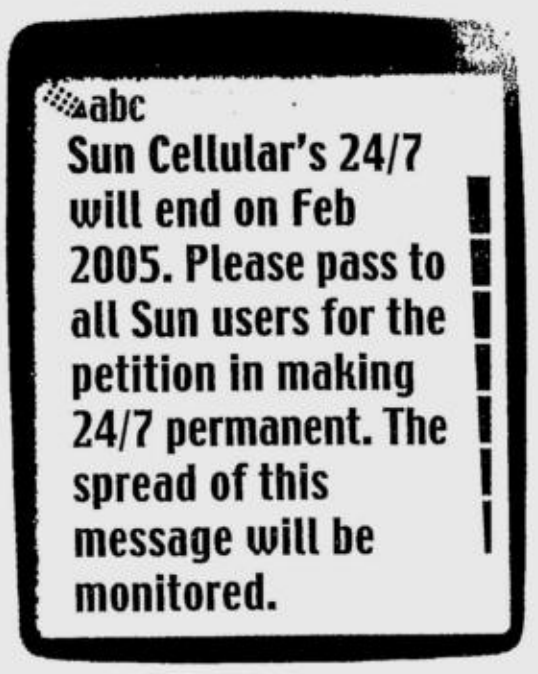
Glass lens
Big view finder
Self-timer
Automatic film loading
Power flash

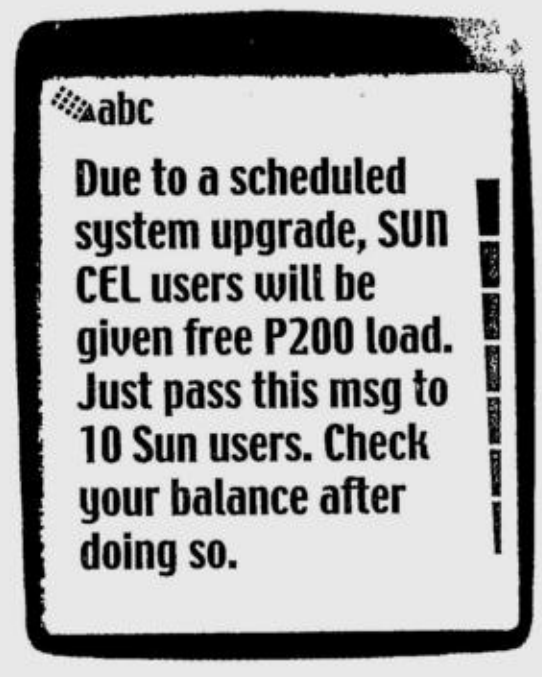
Promo period is from February 7 to 28, 2005.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0334, Series of 2005

Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.
2F Marvin Plaza Bldg., 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue, cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City • Tels.: 812-6047 / 812-6076 to 79 / 892-6449 • Fax: 810-9797
E-mail address: info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph
South & South East Asia Regional Headquarters: Canon Singapore Pte Ltd 1 HarbourFront Avenue, #04-01, Keppel Bay Tower, Singapore 098632 • www.canon-asia.com

Don't be fooled by false texts.

abc
Sun Cellular celebrates its 1 million subscribers. Pass this message to 15 Sun subscribers to get 30 days extension on your 24/7 account. Per DTI Permit # 6019 Series of 2005.


abc
Sun Cellular's 24/7 will end on Feb 2005. Please pass to all Sun users for the petition in making 24/7 permanent. The spread of this message will be monitored.


abc
Due to a scheduled system upgrade, SUN CEL users will be given free P200 load. Just pass this msg to 10 Sun users. Check your balance after doing so.

Sun Cellular sets things straight.

There are text messages using the Sun Cellular name claiming 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited will end soon. There are also false promotional messages circulating that promise rewards for passing them on. These are untrue.

These unauthorized text messages are instigated by certain parties who put their personal and business interests above the consumer's welfare. These fabricated messages have no use but to confuse our Sun Cellular subscribers, raise false expectations and more importantly, congest our network.

Clearly, these said parties do not want the 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited service to succeed.

We advise you to please ignore these messages as they are meant to mislead you.

We therefore reiterate that Sun Cellular does not do pass-on text promotions.

For valid Sun Cellular promotions, please call 200 using your Sun Cellular phone or visit our website at www.suncellular.com.ph.

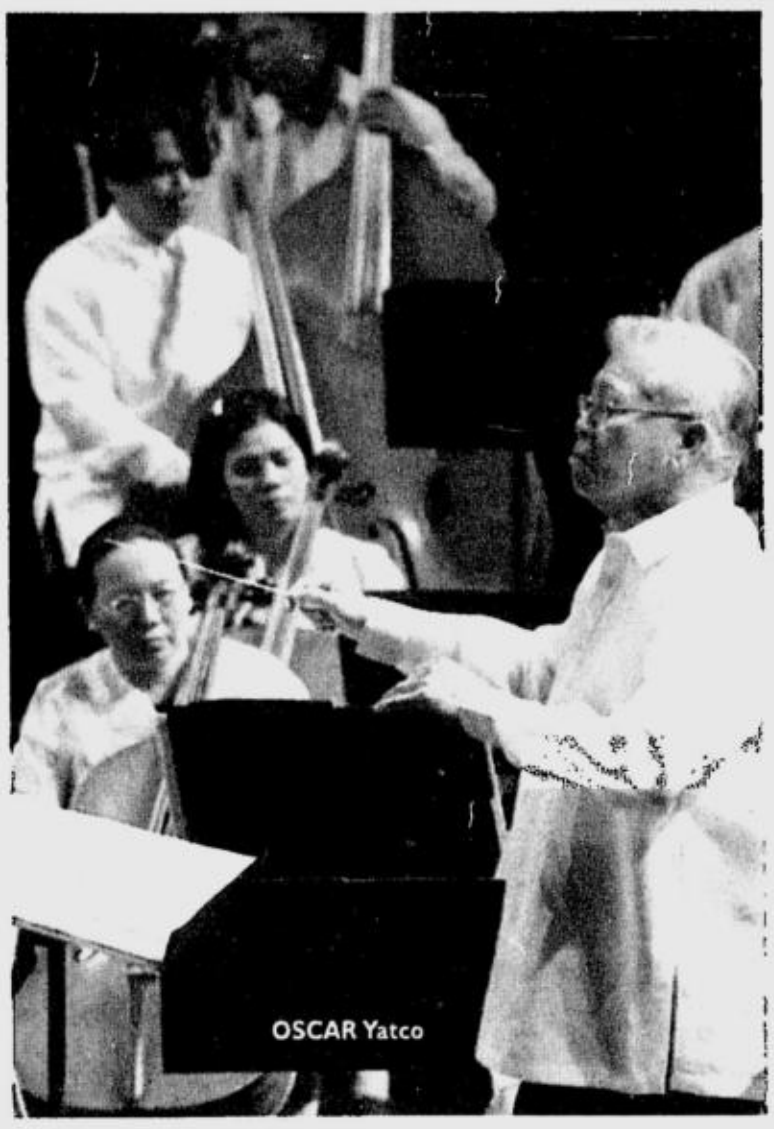
We remain committed in providing you with the best value service you deserve, in the spirit of fair and healthy competition.

Thank you for your continued patronage.

SUN CELLULAR
Everything important is under the Sun

LIFESTYLE
Text us your feedback: Inquirer life name/ city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

BOTE
QUALITY WINS THE FUTURE
CIRCUIT BREAKERS
AVAILABLE IN 10A, 15A, 20A, 30A, 60A, 75A, 100A
AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING ELECTRICAL & HARDWARE STORES NATIONWIDE
Plug in type w/ enclosure
Plug M type



His sensitive reading makes listening gratifying, and elicits a burning sense of patriotic pride

PPO celebrates Filipino music

By Antonio C. Hila
Contributor

PHILIPPINE music never had it so good as when the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra (PPO) recently did an entirely Filipino concert at the Main Theater of the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

The sixth in a series, it had the rather awkward title "Picturesque Philippines: Mostly Music Before World War II." The concert featured mostly music composed before Liberation.

Only an Angel Peña (b. 1921) piece was more contemporary. The other pieces were works of Julian Felipe (1861-1944), Juan Nakpil (1867-1960), Antonio Molina (1894-1980), José Estella (1870-1943), Francisco Buencamino (1883-1952), Francisco Santiago(1889-1947), Nicanor Abelardo (1893-1934), Ramon Tapales (1906-1995), Antonino Buenaventura (1904-1996), and Rodolfo Cornejo (1909-1991).

Indeed, the concert was a salute to Philippine music.

Omissions

Molina was the first to receive the National Artist Award in Music from the CCP in 1973.

Their biographical sketches are in the CCP Encyclopedia of Philippine Art, which the center published in 1994.

Prof. Reynaldo Reyes, the featured pianist, was also the program annotator, a task he was not quite up to. He gave rambling information and at times was hardly audible.

At one point, he told the audience that Nakpil's biographical information was not available.

Nakpil was the composer of the Revolution. His "Funeral March" (1897) commemorated the death of José P. Rizal, who was martyred the year before. Nakpil was the composer of "Marangal na Dalit ng Katagalugan," an anthem commissioned by the Katipunan Supremo Andres Bonifacio, which was to become the national anthem when a republic was proclaimed.

Would-be anthem

It would have been our national anthem had Bonifacio lived to proclaim our independence. The piece's hymn-like character was a direct contrast to the lilting "Marcha Magdalo" that became the "Lupang Hinirang," our national anthem.

The idea of providing annotation was most welcome. One would rather listen to the music than read the program notes, but a well-informed script should have been furnished to Reyes, who spoke extemporaneously. Or such a task could have been given to a seasoned annotator like Tina Monzon-Palma of the "Concert at the Park."

Reyes' annotations of the piano works of Buencamino and Cornejo, drawn from direct knowledge of the score, he having studied and played them before, were enlightening.

His superb rendition plus the ever-dependable reading of Maestro Oscar Yatco amply made up for the deficiencies. Yatco knew the music by heart, many of them he had conducted in the past. Élan characterized his sensitive reading, making listening totally gratifying and eliciting a burning sense of patriotic pride.

Reyes' assessment of the Cornejo piano concerto as comparable to Western works was most welcome. His rapport with Yatco was strong.

Technical prowess

Rhapsodic in Buencamino's "Mayon"—a fantasie, rather than a concerto, as Reyes correctly said, built on folk themes other than Bikolano folk songs (unusual, considering that Mayon is in Bikol)—he was a virtuoso in the Cornejo piece. The expanded cadenza in the first movement of Cornejo's concerto was a display of technical prowess.

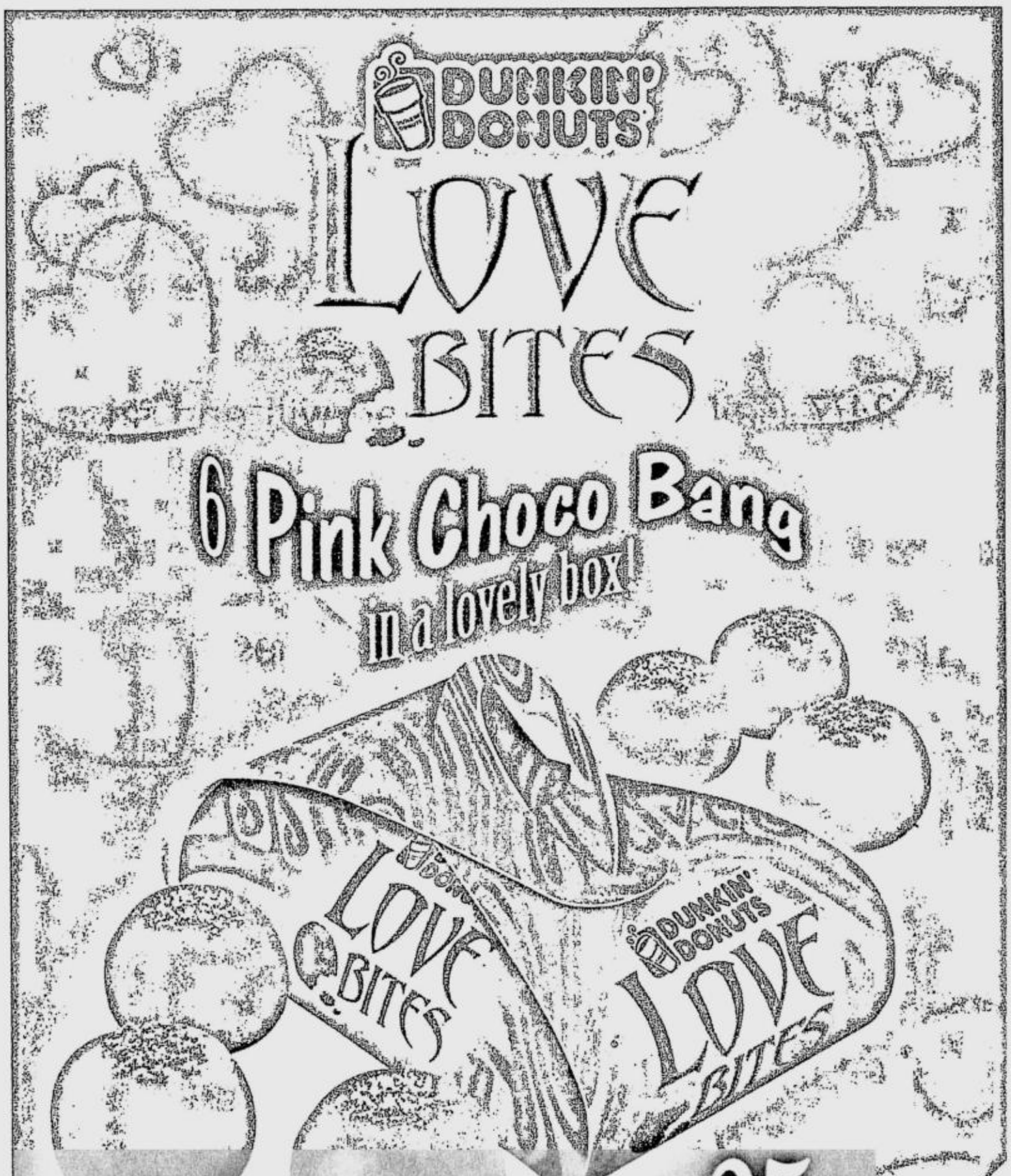
Reyes stands out among Filipino pianists today, his knowledge of the piano literature of local composers beyond par.

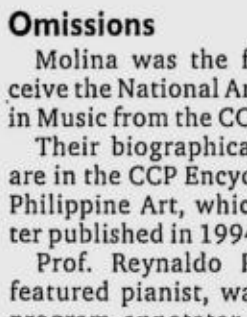
Yatco also provided sterling support to the two featured singers, soprano Joan Cano and tenor Andrei Jos." He led

PPO/ G2

First Pinnacle TEAKWOOD collection
Wood has that warm and sensual feel, with a special soft touch. For you, First Pinnacle has selected the finest teak furniture for your everyday comfort and pleasure. Come & visit our showroom, and let your imagination guide you.
VISIT OUR NEW SHOWROOM AT TC-329, 3/L, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig MARKET! MARKET!
Showroom 1: 4/L, bes. Gameworx, Festival Supermall, Filinvest, Alabang
Tels.: (02) 771-0857 • 807-8571
Main Office: 60 C.B.T. Condominium, West Avenue, Quezon City
Tels.: (02) 3739797 • 4165218 - 19

WHAT'S ON AT ROBINSONS
Find out how the number 7 is bound to make him number 1 in the music charts again!
Janno Gibbs
GMA Records
Promo Mall Tour
a world to discover
ROBINSONS Malls
www.robinsonsmalls.com

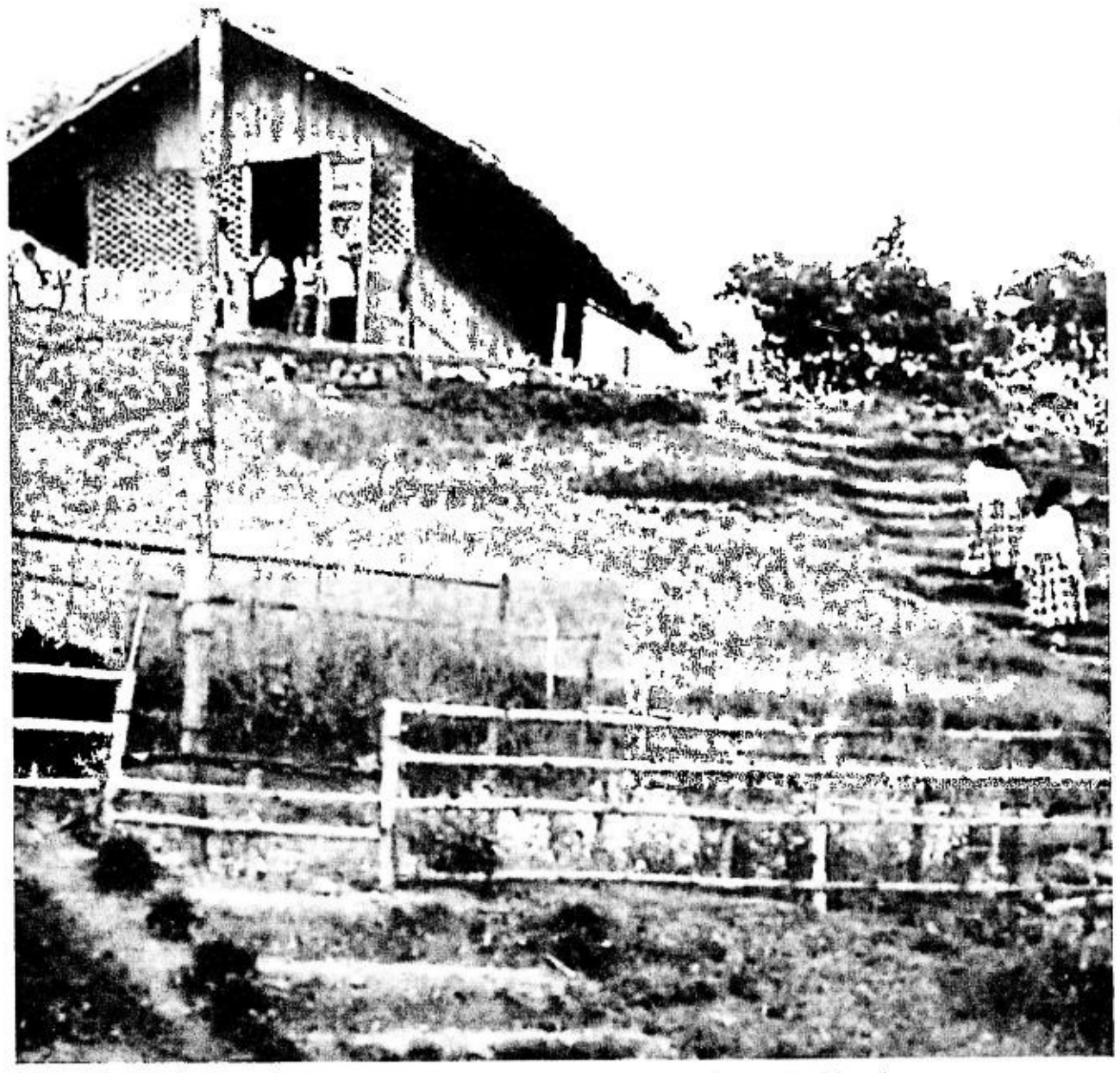

DUNKIN' DONUTS
LOVE BITES
6 Pink Choco Bang
in a lovely box!
P35 lang!
Get 3 boxes for P100
Get 6 pcs. Pink Choco Bang -
Strawberry-filled munchkins, enrobed with pink chocolate & topped with tangerine or raspberry sprinkles, sa presyong sulit ang kagat!
Promo period is from February 01 to 18, 2005.
Available only at participating outlets nationwide. Not valid for promotions and other discounts.



Sweet and Understanding Dats Ikaw
This Valentine's, text your love abroad at P10 per SMS on G-Plan and P15 per SMS on Globe Prepaid. Send to (+)(country code)(mobile number)
making great things possible Globe

EDUCATION REVOLUTION

High-schoolers go for Tulong Dunong



OUR LADY of Peace Mission School in Barangay Agbulod, San Carlos City, Negros Occidental

By Butch Hernandez
Contributor

LEAN Peralta is a gangling 17-year-old high school senior in Ateneo. The quality of education he has been getting is naturally world-class.

Lean is vying for honors, to the delight of his parents. But what makes them even prouder is the fact that Lean and his classmates at Section 4-C are the latest batch of Ateneo's Tulong Dunong.

This unique class activity helps young Ateneans like Lean understand what it really means to be "a man for others."

Throughout this school year, Lean has been going to the H. Bautista Elementary School in Concepcion, Marikina to tutor Grade V and VI pupils in English and Math.

Under the Tulong-Dunong program guidelines, the pupils of the H. Bautista ES are grouped into sections, namely Higher Horizons Grade VI, Higher Horizons Grade V and Regular Section.

LEAN Peralta of Ateneo HS Senior Class 4-C

Higher Horizons Grade VI consists of pupils eligible for scholarship to Ateneo, while Higher Horizons Grade V are made up of pupils who show strong academic potential and are eligible for scholarship grants from other entities.

Lean and the other "kuyas' work in pairs, one handling English tutoring chores while the other handles Math. They tutor 4 pupils—two boys and two girls—at a time per subject matter, which runs for about 45 minutes. The "kuyas' then switch pupils at the end of their respective tutoring sessions.

Ateneo's Tulong Dunong has been quietly doing exemplary work since the 1970s. Lean says that by sharing the blessing of a good education with others, he himself has learned a lot.

Appeal from Our Lady of Peace Mission School

Fr. Edwin Laude, director of the San Carlos Diocesan Social Action Foundation in Negros Occidental, recently got in touch with the Foundation for Worldwide People Power to ask for help in getting a Private Adopting Entity for the Our Lady of Peace Mission School (OLPM).

The mission school can be found in Agbulod, a mountain barangay about 70 km from Bacolod City, Negros Occidental.

OLPMS has two volunteer nuns and three lay teachers who cheerfully try to fulfill the task of giving basic education to the children of poor farmers living in the area.

The task is undeniably difficult, made more so by the rugged terrain and the lack of basic services such as electricity and water.

Fr. Laude says as far as he knows, there is no NGO with education-oriented initiatives operating in the area. Furthermore, there is no public elementary school. The nearest public high school is about 20 kilometers away in San Carlos City.

Still, Fr. Laude and his volunteer nuns and lay teachers persevere. "We cannot turn our backs on this moral obligation of giving God's little children a brighter future through proper education," said Fr. Laude.

If you'd like to help Fr. Laude and the Our Lady of Peace Mission School, you can get in touch with them at sac_scls@eudoramail.com or you can call Fr. Laude himself at (034) 3125411.

UK education fair

THE BRITISH Council Philippines will hold the annual UK Education Fair at the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel on Feb. 18 and 19 from 2 to 8 p.m.

Represented in the exhibition are the University of the Arts London, University of Birmingham, Cambridge Tutors College, Cardiff University, University of Hertfordshire, University of Luton, Middlesex University London, Northumbria University, Oxford Brookes University, University of Portsmouth, St. Edmund's College, University of Sunderland and Thames Valley University.

Recent data from the UK shows that more and more Filipinos are now studying in Britain, with 45 percent pursuing undergraduate degrees while 17 percent studying in masteral and doctorate degree programs. The rest are acquiring professional qualifications and diplomas.

Currently, more than 1,000 Filipino students are studying in England. This reflects one of the largest growth rates in the region: in 1996, there were only 300 Filipinos studying in the UK.

Filipino alumni of British colleges have had greater opportunities for employment and are given good positions in their companies upon returning to the Philippines. Among the outstanding Filipinos who studied in the UK are former University of the Philippines president Francisco Nemenzo, AIM president Roberto de Ocampo, accomplished lawyers Katrina Legarda and Danny Concepcion, stage actress Monique Wilson, and Harrods's senior designer Lesley Mobo.

Free seminars about British education will also run alongside the UK Education Fair. Other activities include the "Welcome to the UK" briefing program, designed to orient students, tourists and visitors about living in the UK, and the British Alumni Association Recognition Night.

For more information, please call 9141011 to 14. Admission is free.

Caragues joins institute

CARAGUE

PROMINENT educator Ofelia Caragues recently joined First Asia Institute of Technology and Humanities as an independent director.

Dr. Caragues is the 10th president of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines where she stayed for 34 years. She was the first dean of the College of Computer Management and Information Technology (CCMIT), vice president for academic affairs, head of branches and extension Services before attaining her position as chief executive of PUP.

One of the country's leading exponents in information technology, she was the president for two consecutive years of the Information Technology Foundation of the Philippines.

Caragues holds doctoral and masteral degrees in business administration and education from PUP.

As director, Dr. Caragues will bring in her experience to enhance First Asia Institute's academic programs especially in the fields of engineering, information technology and computer science.

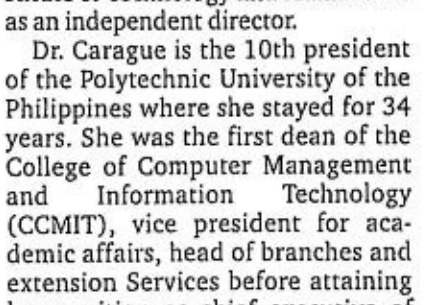
She joins the former president of the Semiconductor and Electronics Industries in the Philippines Inc., Francis Ferrer, also a director of the institute.

UST graduate tops the 2005 architecture board

JOHN Patrick Anthony "Jason" Lumawig Buensalido is this year's board topnotcher in the licensure examination for architecture.

Jason is a 2003 graduate of the University of Santo Tomas where he was a consistent dean's lister and a recipient of the Archbishop Miguel de Benavides Award given to outstanding student.

When he was a senior, he also won the grand prize together with a classmate in the student competition for the design of the Nayong Pilipino Master Development Plan in 2002.



BUENSALIDO

Their grand prize winning entry, which is being used for the master plan for the new Nayong Pilipino, was cited by the board of judges headed by architect Augusto Villalon, for its "broad vision of how to present Philippine culture and geography emphasizing the educational value of Nayong Pilipino."

Jason is the son of Dr. Adrian H. Buensalido and public relations practitioner Joy Buensalido. He is with Archion, an architectural, interior design and planning firm.

Sta. Clara Parish School of Pasay City holds alumni homecoming

GRADUATES of Sta.Clara Parish School of Pasay City are invited to attend the 2005 Alumni Homecoming on Feb. 26.

Registration starts at 3 p.m. at the Sta. Clara Parish School compound. Mass will be celebrated at 4 p.m. by alumni priests which include Fr. Peter Albino (batch '86).

Activities include the blessing of the newly constructed auditorium and alumni room, election of new council members, and raffle.

Call SCPS at 8318253 look for Mr. Adrian Jarder (09168522048), or Eduardo Salamera (09202856646).

Alumni may also register at sta_clara_alumni@yahoogroups.com.

SOPRANO Joan Cano

PPO celebrates Filipino music

From page G1

the latter into safe ground by avoiding the limbo of rhythmic inconsistencies, apart from murky intonation, in Santiago's immortal *kundiman*, "Madaling Araw."

Cano shone like a jewel, ravishing in Estella's concert aria "*Ang Maya*." Cano is the soprano to watch. Undoubtedly she will evolve as a major talent in the future.

Hearing quiet, handsomely crafted symphonic works such as Molina's "Hatinggabi," a danza, and Buenaventura's tone poem "By the Hillside" was comforting. They gave the much-needed boost to one's flagging spirits.

Tapales' "Mindanao Sketches," whose drone-like rhythmic undulation grew bigger and bigger as the music progressed, was simply an aural delight. Reyes likened it to a bud that would fully develop into a flower.

Abelardo's "Cinderella Overture," scored in a modern idiom, showcased that utmost sense of tonality shown in his previous compositions, notably his *kundiman*.

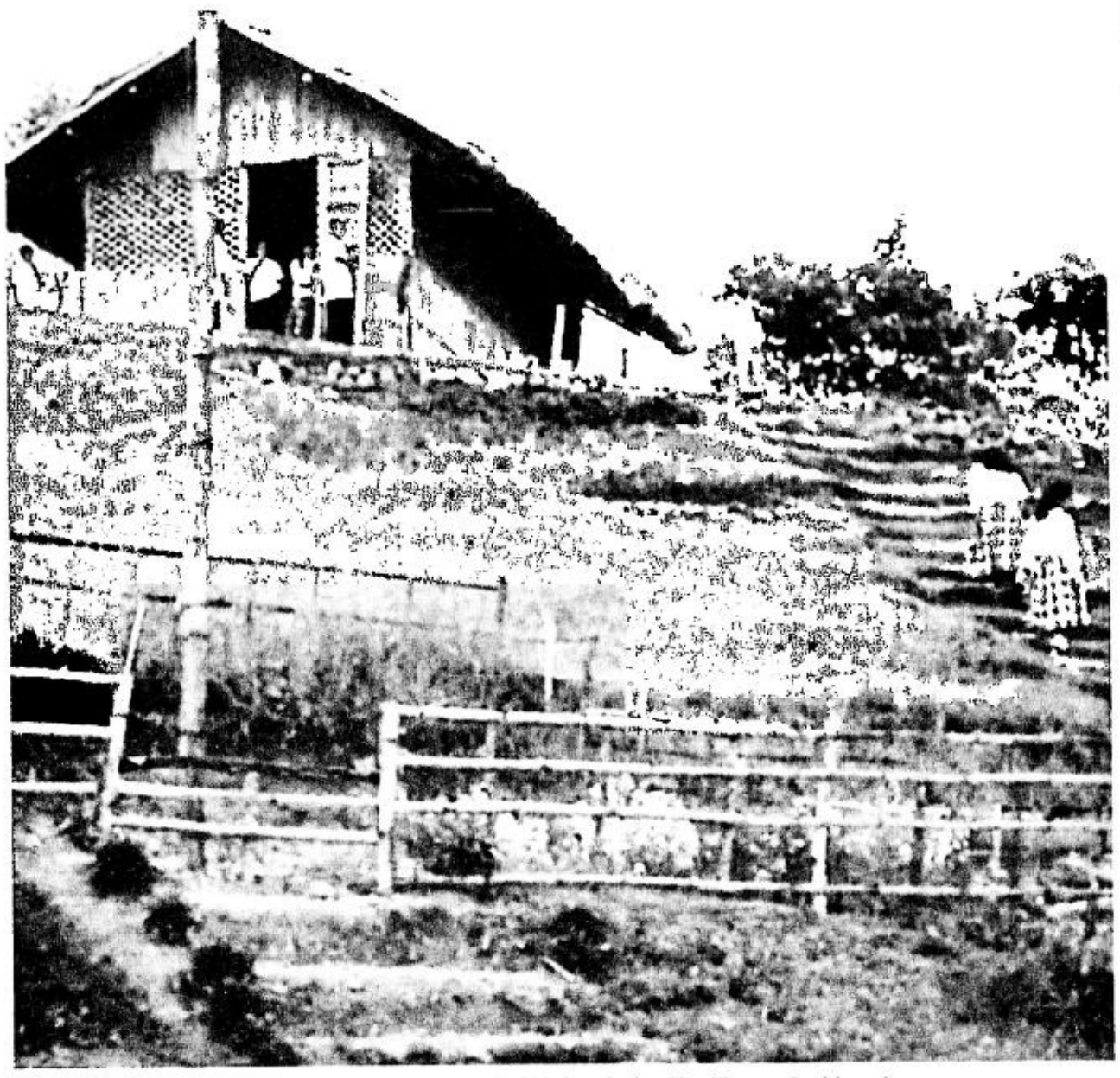
Peña's "Igorot Rhapsody," which utilized ethnic themes and instruments, first heard in the early '80s with Yatco himself conducting, made a dashing comeback. Yatco properly acknowledged him at the end of the piece.

All told, the PPO should be commended for presenting an all-Philippine program.

PPO plays classical Filipino compositions.

EDUCATION REVOLUTION

High-schoolers go for Tulong Dunong



OUR LADY of Peace Mission School in Barangay Agbulod, San Carlos City, Negros Occidental

By Butch Hernandez
Contributor

LEAN Peralta is a gangling 17-year-old high school senior in Ateneo. The quality of education he has been getting is naturally world-class.

Lean is vying for honors, to the delight of his parents. But what makes them even prouder is the fact that Lean and his classmates at Section 4-C are the latest batch of Ateneo's Tulong Dunong.

This unique class activity helps young Ateneans like Lean understand what it really means to be "a man for others."

Throughout this school year, Lean has been going to the H. Bautista Elementary School in Concepcion, Marikina to tutor Grade V and VI pupils in English and Math.

Under the Tulong-Dunong program guidelines, the pupils of the H. Bautista ES are grouped into sections, namely Higher Horizons Grade VI, Higher Horizons Grade V and Regular Section.

Higher Horizons Grade VI consists of pupils eligible for scholarship to Ateneo, while Higher Horizons Grade V are made up of pupils who show strong academic potential and are eligible for scholarship grants from other entities.

Lean and the other "kuyas' work in pairs, one handling English tutoring chores while the other handles Math. They tutor 4 pupils—two boys and two girls—at a time per subject matter, which runs for about 45 minutes. The "kuyas' then switch pupils at the end of their respective tutoring sessions.

Ateneo's Tulong Dunong has been quietly doing exemplary work since the 1970s. Lean says that by sharing the blessing of a good education with others, he himself has learned a lot.

LEAN Peralta of Ateneo HS Senior Class 4-C

Appeal from Our Lady of Peace Mission School

Fr. Edwin Laude, director of the San Carlos Diocesan Social Action Foundation in Negros Occidental, recently got in touch with the Foundation for Worldwide People Power to ask for help in getting a Private Adopting Entity for the Our Lady of Peace Mission School (OLPM).

The mission school can be found in Agbulod, a mountain barangay about 70 km from Bacolod City, Negros Occidental.

OLPMS has two volunteer nuns and three lay teachers who cheerfully try to fulfill the task of giving basic education to the children of poor farmers living in the area.

The task is undeniably difficult, made more so by the rugged terrain and the lack of basic services such as electricity and water.

Fr. Laude says as far as he knows, there is no NGO with education-oriented initiatives operating in the area. Furthermore, there is no public elementary school. The nearest public high school is about 20 kilometers away in San Carlos City.

Still, Fr. Laude and his volunteer nuns and lay teachers persevere. "We cannot turn our backs on this moral obligation of giving God's little children a brighter future through proper education," said Fr. Laude.

If you'd like to help Fr. Laude and the Our Lady of Peace Mission School, you can get in touch with them at sac_scls@eudoramail.com or you can call Fr. Laude himself at (034) 3125411.

UK education fair

THE BRITISH Council Philippines will hold the annual UK Education Fair at the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel on Feb. 18 and 19 from 2 to 8 p.m.

Represented in the exhibition are the University of the Arts London, University of Birmingham, Cambridge Tutors College, Cardiff University, University of Hertfordshire, University of Luton, Middlesex University London, Northumbria University, Oxford Brookes University, University of Portsmouth, St. Edmund's College, University of Sunderland and Thames Valley University.

Recent data from the UK shows that more and more Filipinos are now studying in Britain, with 45 percent pursuing undergraduate degrees while 17 percent studying in masteral and doctorate degree programs. The rest are acquiring professional qualifications and diplomas.

Currently, more than 1,000 Filipino students are studying in England. This reflects one of the largest growth rates in the region: in 1996, there were only 300 Filipinos studying in the UK.

Filipino alumni of British colleges have had greater opportunities for employment and are given good positions in their companies upon returning to the Philippines. Among the outstanding Filipinos who studied in the UK are former University of the Philippines president Francisco Nemenzo, AIM president Roberto de Ocampo, accomplished lawyers Katrina Legarda and Danny Concepcion, stage actress Monique Wilson, and Harrods's senior designer Lesley Mobo.

Free seminars about British education will also run alongside the UK Education Fair. Other activities include the "Welcome to the UK" briefing program, designed to orient students, tourists and visitors about living in the UK, and the British Alumni Association Recognition Night.

For more information, please call 9141011 to 14. Admission is free.

Caragues joins institute

CARAGUE

PROMINENT educator Ofelia Caragues recently joined First Asia Institute of Technology and Humanities as an independent director.

Dr. Caragues is the 10th president of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines where she stayed for 34 years. She was the first dean of the College of Computer Management and Information Technology (CCMIT), vice president for academic affairs, head of branches and extension Services before attaining her position as chief executive of PUP.

One of the country's leading exponents in information technology, she was the president for two consecutive years of the Information Technology Foundation of the Philippines.

Caragues holds doctoral and masteral degrees in business administration and education from PUP.

As director, Dr. Caragues will bring in her experience to enhance First Asia Institute's academic programs especially in the fields of engineering, information technology and computer science.

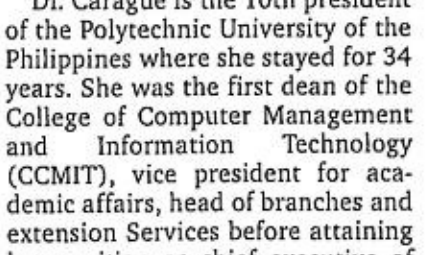
She joins the former president of the Semiconductor and Electronics Industries in the Philippines Inc., Francis Ferrer, also a director of the institute.

UST graduate tops the 2005 architecture board

JOHN Patrick Anthony "Jason" Lumawig Buensalido is this year's board topnotcher in the licensure examination for architecture.

Jason is a 2003 graduate of the University of Santo Tomas where he was a consistent dean's lister and a recipient of the Archbishop Miguel de Benavides Award given to outstanding student.

When he was a senior, he also won the grand prize together with a classmate in the student competition for the design of the Nayong Pilipino Master Development Plan in 2002.



BUENSALIDO

Their grand prize winning entry, which is being used for the master plan for the new Nayong Pilipino, was cited by the board of judges headed by architect Augusto Villalon, for its "broad vision of how to present Philippine culture and geography emphasizing the educational value of Nayong Pilipino."

Jason is the son of Dr. Adrian H. Buensalido and public relations practitioner Joy Buensalido. He is with Archion, an architectural, interior design and planning firm.

Sta. Clara Parish School of Pasay City holds alumni homecoming

GRADUATES of Sta.Clara Parish School of Pasay City are invited to attend the 2005 Alumni Homecoming on Feb. 26.

Registration starts at 3 p.m. at the Sta. Clara Parish School compound. Mass will be celebrated at 4 p.m. by alumni priests which include Fr. Peter Albino (batch '86).

Activities include the blessing of the newly constructed auditorium and alumni room, election of new council members, and raffle.

Call SCPS at 8318253 look for Mr. Adrian Jarder (09168522048), or Eduardo Salamera (09202856646).

Alumni may also register at sta_clara_alumni@yahoogroups.com.

SOPRANO Joan Cano

PPO celebrates Filipino music

From page G1

the latter into safe ground by avoiding the limbo of rhythmic inconsistencies, apart from murky intonation, in Santiago's immortal *kundiman*, "Madaling Araw."

Cano shone like a jewel, ravishing in Estella's concert aria "*Ang Maya*." Cano is the soprano to watch. Undoubtedly she will evolve as a major talent in the future.

Hearing quiet, handsomely crafted symphonic works such as Molina's "Hatinggabi," a danza, and Buenaventura's tone poem "By the Hillside" was comforting. They gave the much-needed boost to one's flagging spirits.

Tapales' "Mindanao Sketches," whose drone-like rhythmic undulation grew bigger and bigger as the music progressed, was simply an aural delight. Reyes likened it to a bud that would fully develop into a flower.

Abelardo's "Cinderella Overture," scored in a modern idiom, showcased that utmost sense of tonality shown in his previous compositions, notably his *kundiman*.

Peña's "Igorot Rhapsody," which utilized ethnic themes and instruments, first heard in the early '80s with Yatco himself conducting, made a dashing comeback. Yatco properly acknowledged him at the end of the piece.

All told, the PPO should be commended for presenting an all-Philippine program.

PPO plays classical Filipino compositions.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Mystery-comedy from Rep this month

SPINE-TINGLING suspense rib-tickling comedy come together in Jack Popplewell's "Busybody," a whodunit populated by riotous characters to be staged by Repertory Philippines at Rep's Globe Theater at Onstage Greenbelt Feb. 11-27.

Shows are at 8 p.m. every Friday and Saturday, and 3:30 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday.

Michael Williams directs a powerhouse cast that includes Joy Virata, Miguel Faustmann, Ana Abad Santos-Bitong, Liesl Batucan, Jeremy Domingo, Arnel Carrion, Niccolo Manahan and Pheona Baranda.

Tickets are available at all Ayala cinema ticketrons, Ticketworld, the Repertory Philippines office and at the gate one hour before the show. Call 8870710.

National Theater Festival this February

THIS FEBRUARY, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) brings a number of Filipino theater productions by professional, community-based and school-based theater groups to venues throughout the country as part of the National Theater Festival.

NCCA executive director Cecile Guidote Alvarez says this year's theatre festival intends to popularize original and uniquely Filipino productions and disseminate its history and significance to a larger audience.

"The performances will also enable theater groups to touch base with theater partners, support groups and institutions in the local communities, and focus one arts as an engine for development in expanding artistic skills for livelihood opportunities and development of cultural industries promoting ecocultural tourism," said Alvarez, who founded the Philippine Educational Theatre Association (Peta), which advocates original Filipino stage productions.

The National Theater Festival is part of the month-long activities slated for the National Arts Month this February, with the theme, "Sining Gising: Crafting Identities for Social Transformation."

The theater festival aims to popularize the history, contributions and current innovations of the theater arts especially among the young; bring together theater groups and audience in dialogue; create avenues for the emergence of next generation artists for theater; and forge partnership with key media groups.

In the National Capital Region, among the performances slated for this month are Pixel Post's "Ambon, Ulan, Baha" on Feb. 20 at the GSIS Theater, CCP Complex, Pasay City; the Thespian Society of the Philippine Normal University's production of "Linda" on Feb. 22-23 at the PNU Dagot Lobby; and the University of the East Drama Company's production of "Isperekengkeng, Isperekangkang" on Feb. 28 at the UE Theater Manila.

In the Visayas, Ramon Felipe de Leon's "Pasalubong," an NCCA Bulawan Playwriting Contest winner, will be presented by Teatrokon and will be touring Panay Island February 17 -19, while Jerry Magoliman's "Gugma Nga Indi Mapunggan", a contemporary sarsuela, will be presented on Feb. 24 at the Colegio San Agustin Auditorium, Bacolod City.

Visit www.ncca.gov.ph

WALKING TALL. National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCAA) executive director Cecile Guidote Alvarez with two *higantes* during the National Arts Month opening

天ぷら 日本ゲリル
Tempura
JAPANESE GRILL

Something good for your heart for the Heart's month!

As we lead the way in Japanese dining pleasure, we give you the first Japanese restaurant food product that is fortified with Omega-3!

Omega-3 serves as a brain booster, improves blood circulation and most importantly, prevents heart diseases. Now you can enjoy not only the taste of our Ebi Tempura but also get the health benefits of Omega-3.

PRESENTS

Ebi Tempura fortified with OMEGA 3

Crispier, Healthier!

私はエビを好む

Free vacuum pillow for a minimum purchase of P500.00 on Valentine's day only.

Per DTI NCR Permit No. 0693 Series of 2005

Tempura JAPANESE GRILL

"Leading the way in Japanese Dining Pleasure"

RETIRO
411 A.N. S. Amoranto St. cor. D. Tuazon St., SMH Q.C.
Tel. No. 410-1281 / 784-2421

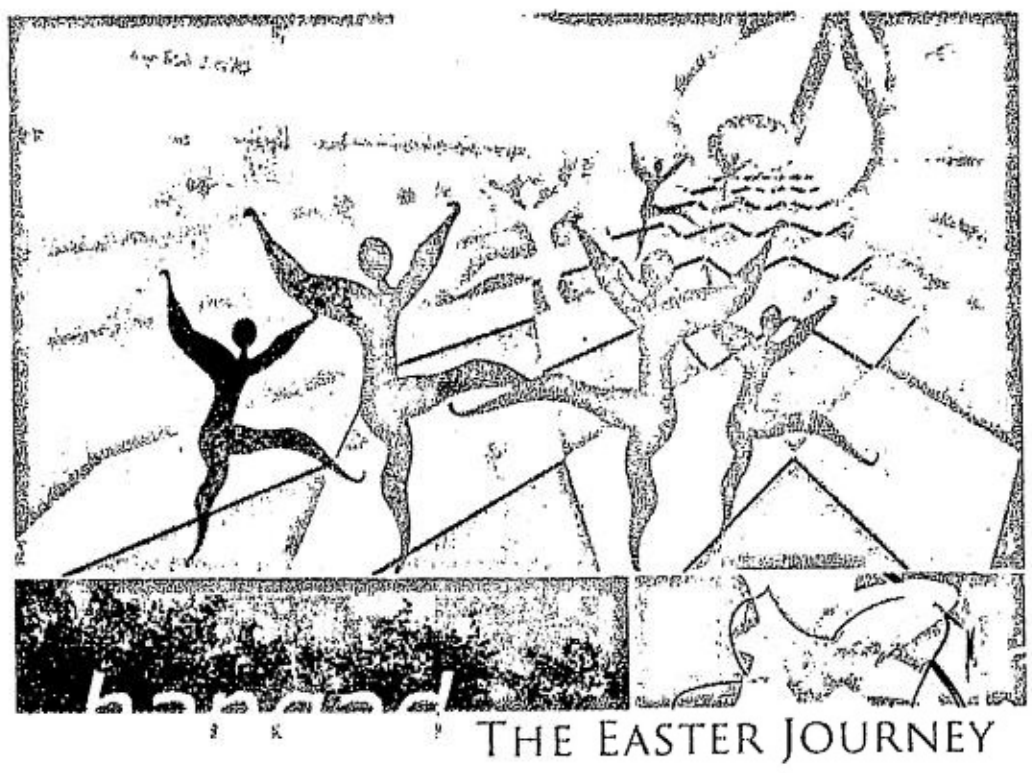
TOMAS MORATO
Unit 6 Thompson Square, # 165 Tomas Morato St., Q.C.
Tel. No. 374-7995 / 374-7460

GREENHILLS
Unit 1, One Kennedy Place, Mckinley St. Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. No. 722-5928 / 727-6710

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
#109-110 Alabang Town Center, New Entertainment Complex
Tel. No. 850-1273 / 850-2136

U.N. AVENUE
Unit 1 U.N. Avenue cor. J. Bocobo St., Malate, Manila
Tel. No. 523-6603 / 522-2526

HANGAD is a group of students and young professionals bound by a desire to know God more deeply and more dearly through music.



HANGAD'S fourth album

Easter album to be launched

A SERIES of free concerts will mark the launching of "The Easter Journey," the new album of Hangad, a musical group of students and young professionals under the Jesuit Music Ministry.

The first concert will be held on Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. in Church of the Gesu on Ateneo de Manila University campus in Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

Other concerts will be held in St. Cecilia's Hall at St. Scholastica's College, Manila, at 7 p.m. on March 4; and at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish Church in Rio Vista Subdivision, Sabang, Baliuag, Bulacan, at 3 p.m. on March 20.

The 20 new songs on the album revolve around the healing power of Lent and the glory of Easter. They feature a variety of musical styles written by Hangad members Paulo Tirol, Nicky Reyes, and Michelle Joy Francia. Among the new compositions are responses for the various parts of the Mass.

Three newly arranged songs by David Haas and Arnel Aquino, S.J., are also included on the album. Musical arrangements were done by Tirol, Reyes, and fellow Hangad members JC Uy and Julius Guevara.

"The Easter Journey," which will have both cassette and CD versions, is Hangad's fourth album. The first, called simply "Hangad," was released on cassette in 1998 and on CD in 2000, followed by "Hangad a Cappella" and "Pasko Naming Hangad" in 2002.

Over the years, Hangad has held numerous concerts and produced three music videos: "Pananatili," "Magnificat" and "Simeon's Canticle."

Copies of the new album will be available during the launch concerts and at all major record stores nationwide; Tanging Yaman kiosks at SM Megamall and SM North Edsa; and the Loyola House of Studies and Jesuit Communications store at Ateneo. Orders may also be made online at www.eaglescorner.com.

Songbooks for "The Easter Journey" will be released by April.

For more information visit www.hangad.com or contact the Jesuit Music Ministry at (02) 4261023.

NEW
Healthy Living Oil
OKAY LANG MAG-PRITO!
At last, isang cooking oil na body health-friendly! Paulit-ulit mang kumain ng prito, ok lang! Dahil ang Magnolia Nutri-Oil ay Healthy Living Oil. Gawa sa coconut oil na naturally rich in MCT's o Medium Chain Triglycerides. Madaling ma-digest ng katawan for all-around energy. Mag-enjoy ka sa prito...hanggang gusto mo! O, kain muli! Magnolia Nutri-Oil! New from San Miguel!
Magnolia
Nutri-Oil
Pure Vegetable Oil
Healthy Living Oil
1000mL (912gms)
Another quality product of

HAMPTON Sides and the Pacific War /I1

ILLUSTRATION: ANTHONY MISTADES

These local counterparts to Mills & Boon probably have the broadest reach in readership, second only to tabloids

The rise of the Pinoy romance novel

By Cheche V. Moral

BAKYA. Baduy. God forbid someone you know sees you browsing in the section devoted to them in bookstores!

But like it or not, local romance novels are now part of Filipino culture, much like the *komiks* were of decades past.

They are widely read all over the country. Retailing from P5 (for the sidewalk novelettes) to a high of P30 (bookstore titles), Tagalog romance novels perhaps have the broadest reach in readership, second only to tabloids.

The mini-tomes are patronized by students, housewives and professionals to the vendors in Divisoria. Several shelves are devoted to this medium in air-conditioned bookstores or spread out in lowly mats on the sidewalks.

Unthinkable

"*Maski ako tingin ko noon bakya*," says Edna Mae Rabago, 30. This journalism graduate of the Lyceum of the Philippines has been reading romance novels since high school—the Sweet Dreams and Harlequin kind. Reading the local counterparts seemed unthinkable.

Wanting to improve her Tagalog vocabulary, however, Rabago, an Ilocano, started reading local novels a few years ago. "Okay *naman pala*," she discovered. "*Mga* professionals *at pati mga lalake nga nagbabasa*."

An events writer for a private company, Rabago found herself writing her first romance novel 2½ years ago. She has had over 10 titles printed since by Bookware Publishing Corp., the publisher of My Special Valentine (MSV) books. MSV may be considered the local equivalent of Mills & Boon.

"*Parang sine kasi*," she explains of the medium's parochial appeal. "*Sa hirap ng buhay ngayon, kailangan ng mga tao ng babasahing magaan sa dibdib*. Usually *kasi* happy ending *itong mga* romance novels."

Like Rabago, Malou Medina also thought local romance novels were cheesy. Reading one, much less writing it, was farthest from her mind.

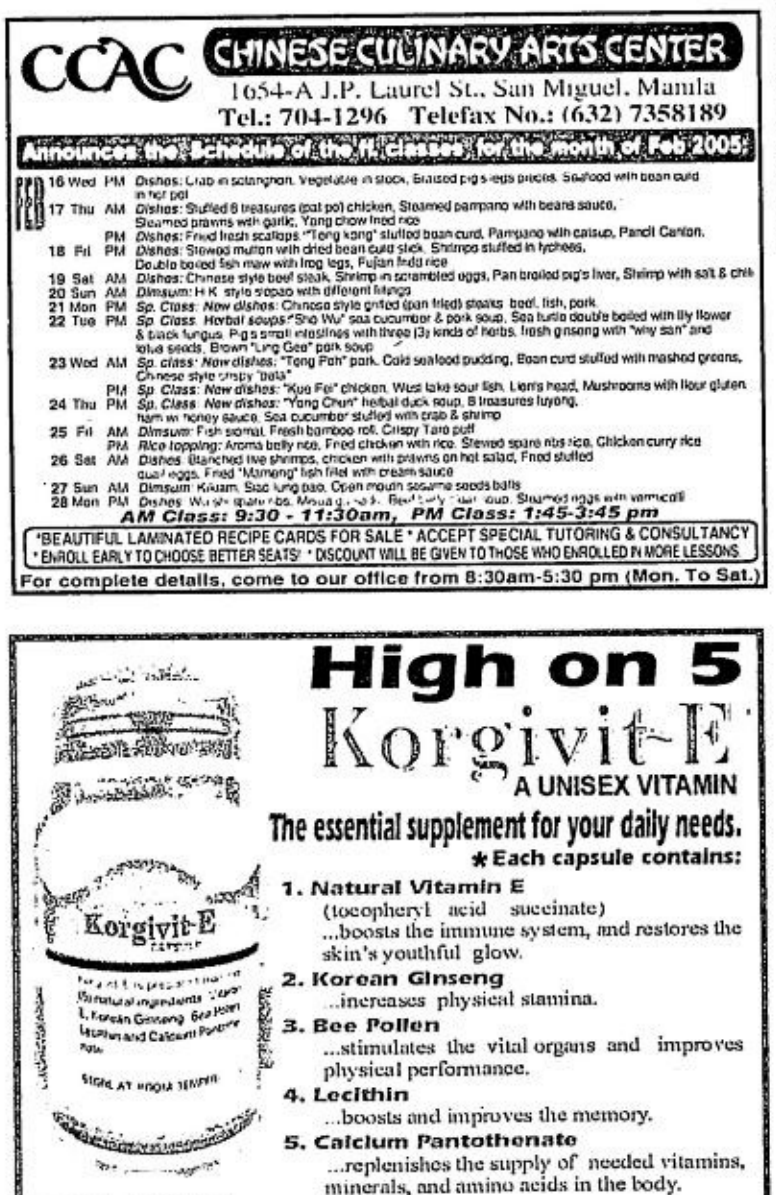
Funnily enough, Medina left her job writing for a website to become assistant editor for MSV. After a year on the job, "*nasanay na rin ako*," she shrugs. "*Tapos naisip ko nga, kaya ko rin ito, ah*."

Her first novel will hit bookstores next month.

THE RISE/ H2

Cool Properties!
Hot Deals!
TAGAYTAY
Vacation Homes
BAGUIO
Vacation Homes
* The picture here with is a Duplex unit.
AFFORDABLE Investment Packages at the MOST DELIGHTFUL LOCATIONS with the MOST BREATHTAKING VIEWS!
For Inquiries, Pls. Call: LEXBER Realty Mgt. & Mktg.
372-3206; 374-2584; 410-8367 to 69; 371-9702 to 04
website: www.lexber.com email: vacation@lexber.com
"WE WELCOME BROKERS & AGENTS"

Is your child ready for
Ateneo, Lasalle, or UP?
A+
AHEAD
TUTORIAL & REVIEW
Increase his chance of getting into his university of choice...
Enroll him in our Ateneo-La Salle-UP test-based college entrance review today!
First course starts March 30, 2005
Big discounts await early enrollees.
www.aheadph.com info@aheadph.com 426.0034 to 36
REVIEW VENUES: Quezon City • Pasig • Mandaluyong • San Juan • Manila • Makati • Alabang


CCAC
CHINESE CULINARY ARTS CENTER
1654-A J.P. Laurel St., San Miguel, Manila
Tel.: 704-1296 Telefax No.: (632) 7358189
Announces the schedule of the H classes for the month of Feb 2005:
16 Wed PM Dishes: Crab in sotanghon. Vegetable in stock. Braised pig's legs pieces. Seafood with bean curd in hot pot
17 Thu AM Dishes: Stuffed 8 treasures (pat pot) chicken. Steamed pampano with beans sauce. Steamed prawns with garlic. Yang chow fried rice
PM Dishes: Fried fresh scallops. "Tong kong" stuffed bean curd. Pampano with calsup. Pancit Canton.
18 Fri PM Dishes: Stewed mutton with dried bean curd stick. Shrimps stuffed in lychees. Double boiled fish maw with frog legs. Fujian fried rice
19 Sat AM Dishes: Chinese style beef steak. Shrimp in scrambled eggs. Pan broiled pig's liver. Shrimp with salt & chili
20 Sun AM Dimsum: H K style siopao with different fillings
21 Mon PM Sp. Class: New dishes: Chinese style grilled (pan fried) steaks beef, fish, pork.
22 Tue PM Sp. Class: Herbal soups "Sha Wu" sea cucumber & pork soup. Sea turtle double boiled with lily flower & black fungus. Pig's small intestines with three (3) kinds of herbs. Irish ginseng with "wiy san" and lotus seeds. Brown "Ling Gee" pork soup
23 Wed AM Sp. class: New dishes: "Tong Poh" pork. Cold seafood pudding. Bean curd stuffed with mashed greens. Chinese style crispy "bola"
PM Sp. Class: New dishes: "Kue Fe" chicken. West lake sour fish. Lion's head. Mushrooms with flour gluten
24 Thu PM Sp. Class: New dishes: "Yang Chun" herbal duck soup. 8 treasures luyong. ham w/ honey sauce. Sea cucumber stuffed with crab & shrimp
25 Fri AM Dimsum: Fish stomat. Fresh bamboo roll. Crispy Taro puff
PM Rice topping: Aroma belly rice. Fried chicken with rice. Stewed spare ribs rice. Chicken curry rice
26 Sat AM Dishes: Blanched live shrimps. chicken with prawns on hot salad. Fried stuffed quail eggs. Fried "Mamang" fish fillet with cream sauce
27 Sun AM Dimsum: Kikiam. Siao lung pao. Open mouth sesame seeds balls
28 Mon PM Dishes: Wu shi spare ribs. Mixed [illegible]. Beef curly liver soup. Steamed eggs with vermicelli
AM Class: 9:30 - 11:30am, PM Class: 1:45-3:45 pm
*BEAUTIFUL LAMINATED RECIPE CARDS FOR SALE * ACCEPT SPECIAL TUTORING & CONSULTANCY
* ENROLL EARLY TO CHOOSE BETTER SEATS! * DISCOUNT WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO ENROLLED IN MORE LESSONS
For complete details, come to our office from 8:30am-5:30 pm (Mon. To Sat.)

High on 5
Korgivit-E
A UNISEX VITAMIN
The essential supplement for your daily needs.
*Each capsule contains:
1. Natural Vitamin E
(tocopheryl acid succinate)
...boosts the immune system, and restores the skin's youthful glow.
2. Korean Ginseng
...increases physical stamina.
3. Bee Pollen
...stimulates the vital organs and improves physical performance.
4. Lecithin
...boosts and improves the memory.
5. Calcium Pantothenate
...replenishes the supply of needed vitamins, minerals, and amino acids in the body.
Manufactured and Distributed by:
DIAMOND LABORATORIES, INC.
#8 Ferla Road Commonwealth Ave Quezon City
For FREE samples send your name, age & occupation through a self addressed envelope to P.O. Box # 2039 QC
For inquiries call 931-4916
Take Korgivit-E and be High on 5!

MENDEZ MEDICAL GROUP
Body Face
A 'Rosy' treat
for You and your Loved one...
Visit any branch together and get
Blue Rosy Peel and Rosy Peel for the price of one.
Weigh Less Center Branches:
ROCES 3733365 to 66 / 3718886 to 87 • SM MEGAMALL 6352577 • SM FAIRVIEW 9377493
GLORIETTA • BINONDO • WESTIN PHIL. PLAZA • WILSON GREENHILLS
SM CITY, Pampanga • SM Davao • GEN. TRIAS, Cavite • MARKET MARKET, Fort Bonifacio
Body & Face Branches:
GREENBELT, THE PLAZA BLDG. 8929088 • METROPOINT MALL Tel. 8325527
East Ave., QC • NEPO MALL, Angeles City • MEGA CTR., Cabanatuan City
3/F NEW FARMERS, Cubao 9950983 • CITY GARDEN HOTEL
METROPOLIS Alabang 8098877 • ARANETA SQUARE, Caloocan • Starmall, Shaw Blvd.
Website: www.weightlesscenter.net / E-mail: weightlesscenter@yahoo.com

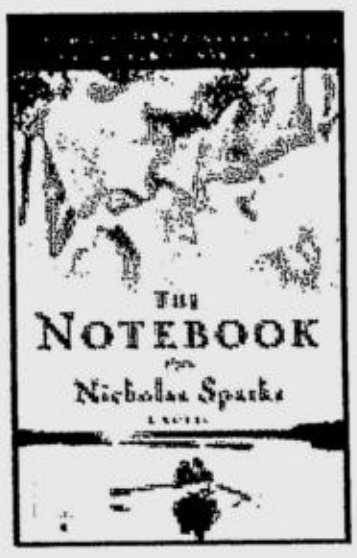
Gardenia
5-GRAIN Loaf
Gardenia HEALTHY-LICIOUS Bread
Healthy goodness your heart will love.
Gardenia Five-Grain Loaf is a tasty bread that's good for the heart. A deliciously chewy mix of five health-giving grains--- oat flakes, linseeds, sesame seeds, wheat flakes and sunflower kernels, it's loaded with vitamins and minerals to help promote a healthy heart.
Gardenia
5

Valentine readings

'The Notebook'

By Nicholas Sparks

An achingly tender story that relates the enduring power of love. Noah Calhoun returns to his rural Southern plantation after World War II, determined to restore the place to its original glory. A woman he knew and loved years earlier comes back into his life, engaged to another man, and the obstacles that prevented the fulfillment of their love for each other still in place.



'Someone to Watch over Me'

By Judith McNaught

When the rich, successful husband of a beautiful New York actress mysteriously disappears, she rushes into a desperate search for him... and into a menacing web of secrets, deception, and danger. Once again Judith McNaught, author of the best seller "Night Whispers," crafts a thrilling tale filled with unrelenting suspense, unforgettable characters, and powerful undercurrents of greed, ambition and desire.

'P.S. I Love You'

By Cecelia Ahern

Holly couldn't live without her husband, Gerry. But he succumbs to a terminal illness and dies, and 30-year-old Holly is set adrift, unable to pick up the pieces. But with the help of a series of letters her husband left her before he died and a little nudging from an eccentric assortment of family and friends, she learns to laugh, overcome her fears, and discover a world she never knew existed.

'Trading UP'

By Candace Bushnell

Modern-day heroine Janey Wilcox is a lingerie model whose reach often exceeds her grasp, and whose newfound success has gone to her head. As we follow her adventures, Bushnell draws us into a seemingly glamorous world of $100,000 cars, hunky polo players and media moguls, Fifth Avenue apartments, and relationships whose hidden agendas are detectable only by the socially astute. But just as Janey enters this world of too much money and too few morals, unseen forces conspire to bring her down, forcing her to reexamine her values about love and friendship—and how far she's really willing to go to realize her dreams.

'In Her Shoes'

By Jennifer Weiner

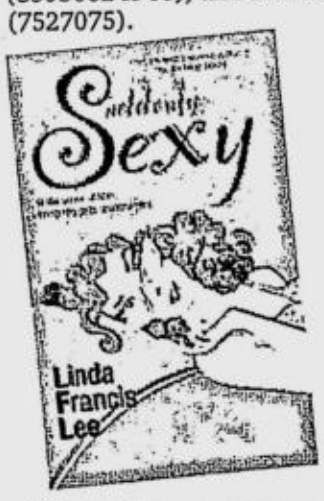
Two women, who claim to have nothing in common but a childhood tragedy, DNA, and the same size feet, are about to learn that they're more alike than they'd ever imagined. Along the way, they'll encounter a diverse cast of characters—from a stepmother who's into recreational Botox to a disdainful pug with no name. They'll borrow shoes and clothes and boyfriends, and eventually make peace with their most intimate enemies—each other.

'Suddenly Sexy'

By Linda Francis Lee

Kate still can't believe that she has picked to cook on live TV with a man referred to as The Naked Chef. On stage, she takes a deep calming breath, thinks about the stress-management techniques she had learned, then smoothens her apron. It takes a couple of seconds more before she can finally put up a smile—I can do this!

Powerbooks Specialty Store is a full-service specialty bookstore with branches at Greenbelt 4 (7576428/29), Megamall (6352898 to 99), Alabang (8505662 to 63), and Glorietta (7527075).



Read 'em and luv

'A Very Long Engagement'

By Sebastien Japrisot
Trade paperback, P672
Mass market paperback, P559

A runaway bestseller in France and the winner of the 1991 Prix Interallie, this astonishing novel is many things at once: an absorbing mystery, a playful study of the different ways one story can be told, a moving and incisive portrait of life in France during and after the First World War, and a love story of transforming power and beauty.

There will be a book discussion on this novel on Feb. 28, 6:30 p.m. in the Press Cafe of Fully Booked.

'The Phantom of the Opera'

By Gaston Leroux, P336

Part horror story, part historical romance, and part detective thriller, the timeless tale of a masked, disfigured musical genius who lives beneath the Paris Opera House is familiar to millions of readers, as well as to movie and theatre-goers. At the heart of the story's long-standing popularity lies its questioning of a universal theme: the relationship between outward appearance and the beauty and darkness of the human soul.

'An Embarrassment of Mangoes: A Carribean Interlude'

By Ann Vanderhoof, P639

Who hasn't fantasized about chucking the job, saying good-bye to the rat race, and escaping to some exotic destination in search of sun, sand, and a different way of life? Ann Vanderhoof and her husband, Steve, did just that, and recounts their experiences in this engaging travel book.

'An Unfinished Life'

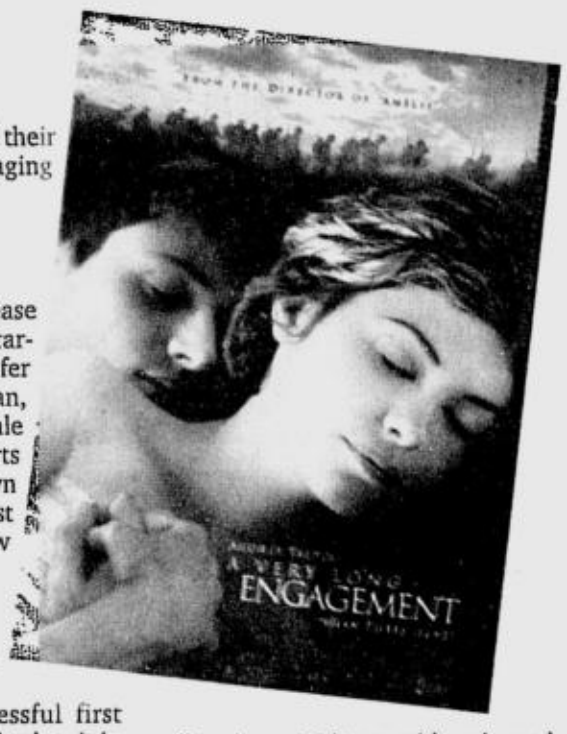
By Mark Spragg, P879

Slated for box office release later this year in a movie starring Robert Redford, Jennifer Lopez and Morgan Freeman, this inspiring story is the tale of a single mother who starts her life over in a small town where she and her son must turn loss into a hopeful new beginning.

'Love Me '

By Garrison Keillor, P559

After penning a successful first novel, Larry Wyler is invited to join the ranks of such revered novelists as JD Salinger and EB White on the staff of The New Yorker. But the success quickly goes to his head, and as he find himself suffering from a severe case of writer's block, a new position as advice columnist for a small-town paper teaches him some valuable lessons.



'Sex with Kings: 500 Years of Adultery, Power, Rivalry and Revenge'

By Eleanor Herman, P816

Royalty often marry for convenience and political connections, rather than for love. This book discusses the lives of royal mistresses in European history over the past half-millennium. Written with wit and candor, Herman offers a view on what was not commonly seen—life inside the royal bedrooms.

'The Metrosexual Guide to Style: A Handbook for the Modern Man'

By Michael Flocker, P622

Gay, straight or ambiguous, most men nowadays have more sense of personal style and are no longer content to let their mothers and/or partners shop for them. This handy handbook helps men of any age and orientation become impeccably mannered, well groomed and all-around savvy.

All books available at Fully Booked, Power Plant Mall

Forum of erotic writers

LIKHAAN: The UP Institute of Creative Writing (UP ICW) has set a Kuwentuhan session on writing erotica. It will be held today, 2-5 p.m., at the Arcellana Reading Room, Bulwagang Rizal, Diliman, Quezon City. It is part of the Writers' Kuwentuhan Series which has been an ongoing activity of the UP ICW since 1996. Kuwentuhan, as it is popularly known, has become a buzzword in literary circles.

The panel will be composed of:

Melecio (George) Fabros III is an associate professor of UP Diliman who has journeyed into the mystique of sex and sexuality in his writings and research on language and gender (he is a PhD Filipino student), and the discourse of sex.

Allan Hernández is a guitarist of the band The Late Isabel, which won the In the Raw Award in the last NU 107 Awards. He is also the managing editor of the FHM, the No.1 magazine today.

Jim Libiran is a member of the Linangan sa Imahen, Retorika at Anyo (Lira). Formerly an ace correspondent of ABS-CBN, he is now the head of production, news and public Affairs at ABC 5. He is also known as "Xerex Xaviera."

Rommel Rodriguez is a junior faculty at the UP Department of Filipino and Philippine Literature. His essays deal mostly about gender and sexuality.

Aida F. Santos has has won recognition for her poetry from the Palanca, the CCP and the CWC (Local Fellow for Poetry, 1997-98). She is a feminist (founding member, Gabriela); an activist (member of the Dekada '70 Hall of Fame);and a grassroots/community trainor/organizer/facilitator.

Benilda Santos is chair of the AdMU Filipino Department; director, AdMU National Writers Workshop; and director, Ateneo Institute of Literary Arts & Practices. She won the Gawad Pambansang Alagad ni Balagtas in 2002.

For the intermission, Don Cruz at Kantula and Easy Fagela and the Forces of Evil will perform while Fidel Rillo Jr., Teo Antonio and Ligaya Tiamson Rubin will recite their poems that won in the Ero Ti On-the-spot Poetry writing contest last Feb. 11. UP ICW resident fellow Marra Lanot will be the emcee-moderator, while director Vim D. Nadera will deliver the welcome remarks.

Business stories with a heart

IN POWERBOOKS book of the month "Remember Who You Are," author Daisy Wademan shares amusing and heartwarming nuggets of real lives which demonstrate the importance of character in a person's career.

Wademan is a Harvard Business School alumna and former investment banker. Her book is actually a compendium of her Harvard professors' advice and parting words to graduating business students that touched Wademan so much that she decided to put them together in one important volume. It features contributions from Rosabeth Moss Kanter and HBS dean Kim Clark, among others.

The book provides tales of courage, compassion and respect, reminding us that great leaders not only have brilliant minds; they also have big hearts.

PowerBooks has branches at Greenbelt 4 (7576428/29), Megamall (6352898 to 99), Alabang (8505662 to 63), and Glorietta (7527075).

The rise of the Pinoy romance novel

From page H1

The 26-year-old Medina is a journalism graduate of the University of the Philippines.

Pen names

Rabago and Medina are well aware of the *baduy* factor associated with the medium. So aware, in fact, that both use pen names. "I wanted a name *na hindi talaga maa*-associate *sa akin*," Medina admits sheepishly.

More than an anomaly, though, pseudonyms seem to be the rule among majority of local romance writers. "*Siguro* two out of eight *lang ang gumagamit ng totoong pangalan nila*," Medina says of MSV's pool of writers. Rabago herself uses two aliases upon the advice of her editors.

"*Mga* close friends *ko lang ang nakakaalam*," Rabago admits. "*Hindi ko naman ikinahihiya. Ini*-encourage *ko nga yung iba na magbasa at magsulat. May mga kakilala din kasi ako, mga* Palanca Award winners *sila pero* pseudonym *din ang gamit*."

Medina offers a different explanation. In MSV, she says, the concern is not to build the names of its authors but to come out with good stories. There's no "bestseller" status among their authors. With 12 new titles from MSV each month, turnover is quick that even titles that sell well are not reprinted.

The "cheesy" format notwithstanding, Rabago insists she never uses this as an excuse for a slipshod story. "*Na*gre-research *talaga ako*. I don't want to insult the readers. *Bakya na nga yung format, huwag namang pati ang* content. *Kailangan maski papaano tumaas yung antas*."

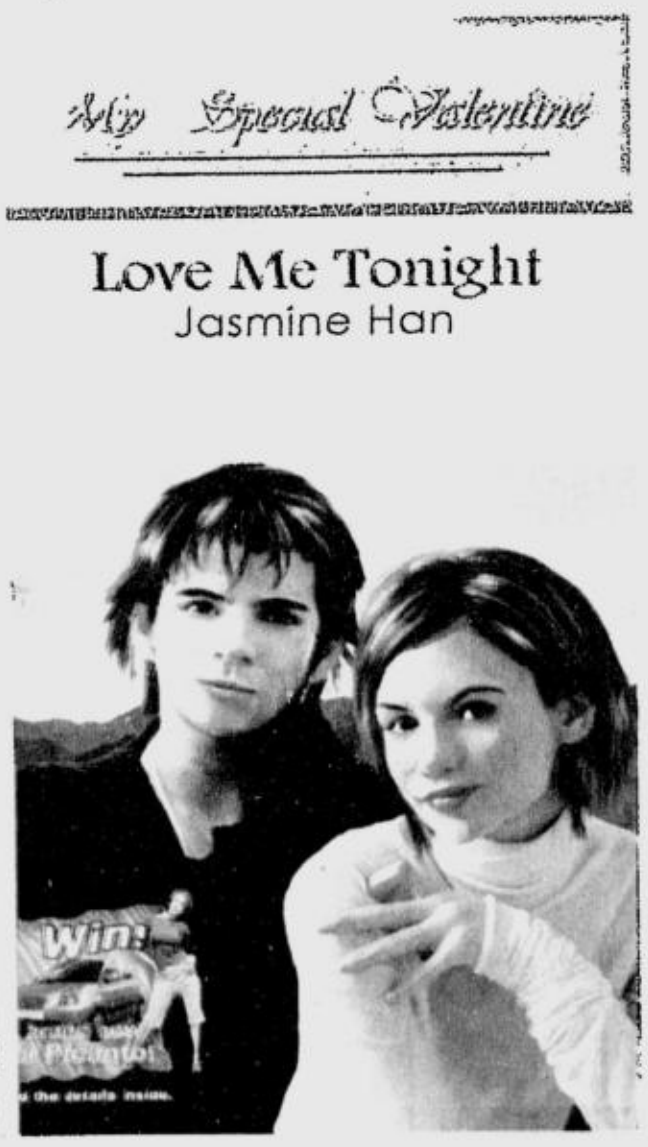
Owing to her training in journalism, Rabago feels the need to inform her readers. She believes people can learn even through romance novels. These stories, she says, should be entertaining as well as informative, without talking down to the well-educated reader or intimidating the lowly *tindera*.

Her female protagonists, for instance, have strong personalities, says Rabago. She consciously does away with the damsel-in-distress stereotype of women.

Even as Medina admits there's no directive at MSV to "preach" or rectify old stereotypes—"Light reading *lang kasi*, so *dapat* commercially appealing"—Rabago cites of another writer whose story was rejected because the female character was "too weak."

"Girl power *na kasi*," she adds with a chuckle.

The sexual content of Rabago's stories is admittedly very romanticized. "*May* tendency *kasi tayong gayahin yung mga* romance novels sa West. *Ayoko namang i*-promote *yun. Gusto kong ipasok yung totoong* culture *natin. Ang sinasabi ko,* sex is not always the basis of a relationship. *Pumapasok din dito yung* faith *ko*."



Varied writers

Typical romantic tomes are 125-page pocket books, written in "conversational" Taglish, according to Medina. MSV's pool of authors is just as varied as their readership demographic. They have authors who are high-school students. Some are yuppies, others housewives. They even have a handful of male writers. Most of them have day jobs.

"*Halata mo pag lalaki yung sumulat kasi yung* intimate scenes *ng istorya napaka*-sexual. We try to tone it down," Medina notes. The men use female pen names.

MSV primarily has female readers in mind—"mostly housewives," says Medina. As such, they don't accept stories with homosexual content. "It's not because we're against homosexuals, we just want to focus on man-woman romance," she explains.

Even as Medina doesn't see romance novel-writing as a longtime career, she admits she enjoys the good—and quick—pay.

Ditto for Rabago. Of course, she says, it would be nice to, one day, see this humble medium recognized as a "legitimate" form of literature. Romance novelists overseas are recognized with awards for their works, she notes. Wouldn't it also be nice to see that happening here?

Perhaps, then, these authors won't have to use pseudonyms.

New Tagalog romance titles

IN TIME for Valentine's Day, My Special Valentine (MSV) Classics Illustrated, publisher of exciting artworks and inspiring love stories by a new breed of writers, artists and editors, is releasing new titles:

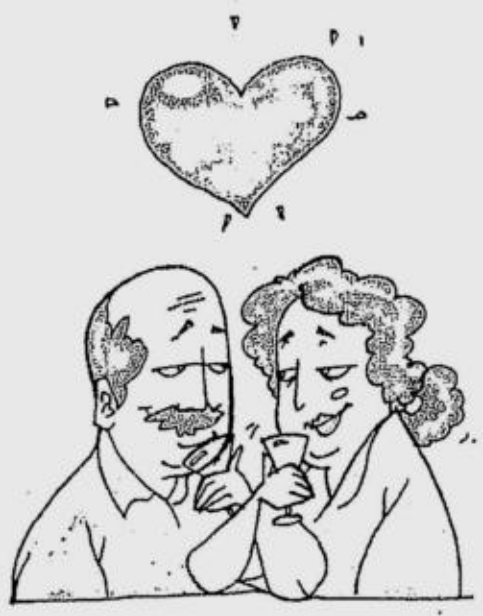
"Sana'y Matuto Kang Magmahal," "Kung Alam Mo Lang," "Bakit Inibig Pa Kita," "Kung Puso Ang Kapalit," "You are Always in My Heart," "Leave Yesterday Behind," "Paano Sasabihing Mahal Kita," "Sa Isip Ko'y Kaaway, Sa Puso Ko'y Minamahal," "Ikaw Ang Pangarap," "Never Say Goodbye," "Noon Pa, Mahal Na Kita" and "Thank You For Loving Me."

Meanwhile, Raquel Aban of San Pedro, Laguna, is the winner of the recently concluded Nokia 3650 cell phone raffle promo. There will be more promotions ahead, said MSV officials. Call 6318894.

A writer's Valentine

ILLUSTRATIONS: ANTHONY MISTADES

PERHAPS because they are always repressed, writers are the best authority on love. And since they write almost about nothing else, they constitute what could be called a love fellowship. Below, two respected Philippine writers reveal their favorite romantic literary passages



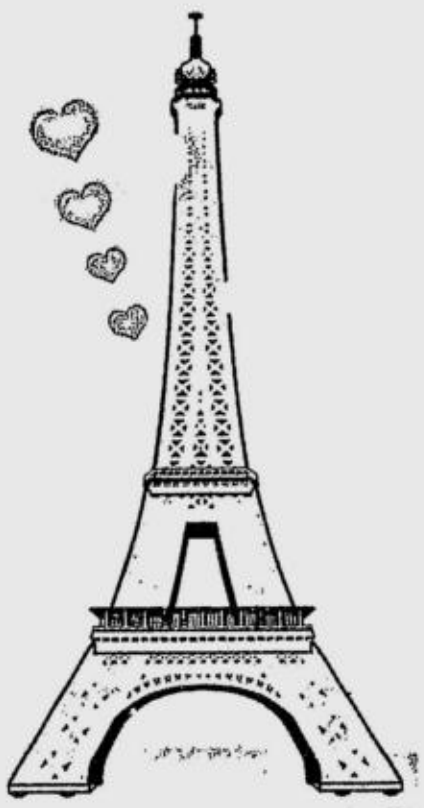
Jaime An Lim

Dean of arts and sciences, Far Eastern University

"Love at first sight is easy to understand. It's when two people have been looking at each other for years that it becomes a miracle." **Sam Levenson**

"Love is the history of a woman's life; it is an episode in man's." **Germaine De Staël**

"Love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking together in the same direction." **Antoine de Saint-Exupéry**



Ian Rosales Casocot

Palanca-winning fictionist and faculty of Silliman University

In this passage from **Brian Morton**'s "Starting Out in the Evening," Leonard Schiller, an aging, failed novelist goes to Paris to keep a promise he made with his wife that they visit the spot—the Eiffel tower—where they first met, 40 years later. In the interim, however, she died, and he alone goes to complete the appointment:

"There was nothing, of course. She hadn't made the journey. But even so, it seemed to him that the air where he sat was charged, alive. He had been looking forward to this appointment so deeply, for so long, that the spot itself seemed to have been affected by his longing. It was hard to understand how the tourists bustling around him could fail to notice that there was something different about this patch of space: that it was charged, that it was saturated with love!

It seemed right that they had arranged to meet at this spot, near this monument, this huge and beautiful cliché. It seemed right because of what they had discovered about it many years ago: when you were in this city, you could never lose it. You could be wandering around through narrow winding streets in some unfamiliar district, utterly disoriented, and suddenly, when you turned a corner, you'd see it in the distance, glittering in the smokeless air. You could never lose it. It was always near. Exactly like you, my love. Exactly like you."

www.siemens.com
S65
M65
CX65
C65
Designed to Inspire
SIEMENS
AN EXCITING NEW RANGE
S65
2 Mega pixel Camera with 8x digital zoom
with a 512MB Reduced Size Multimedia card
Ultra portable technology, Triband MMS, GPRS, Java
2.2" 176 x 220 pixels, 65K TFT color display with
Video capturing and Messaging
M65
• Water, Dust & Shock Resistant (Protective real metal frame and rubber sealing)
• Integrated VGA Photo & Video Camera,5x digital zoom with 10MB memory capacity
• 13cm² Extra-large, 65K Hi-resolution TFT Color Display with 3D Gaming
• Triband, MMS, GPRS, Java™
CX65
• 13cm² Extra-large, 65K TFT color display with 3D Gaming
• Integrated VGA Photo and Video Camera, 5x digital zoom with 10MB memory capacity
• Photo application (photo editor)
• Triband, MMS, GPRS, Java™
C65
• Photopet, a cute character living inside your phone
• Integrated Photo Camera, 3x digital zoom with 5MB memory capacity
• Hi-resolution 65K color display
• Triband, MMS, GPRS, Java™
Call Siemens Mobile Customer Care Line at 757-1118 from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm, Mondays to Fridays and 8:30 am to 12:00 nn on Saturdays.
You can also call the Siemens Mobile Concept Shop at 920-9158 or 752-8545 or e-mail mobilecare@siemens.com.ph for inquiries.
For dealer inquiries, please call Haldane Phils. at 521-1111.
SIEMENS
AUTHORIZED DEALERS
METRO MANILA: ADI TELECOM, BSD INTERNATIONAL, BESTCOMM, COMCENTRE, E-PHONE, GLOBOTEL, HELLO, MEGACELLULAR NETWORK, INC., MEMOXPRESS, MOBILE EXPERTS, ONLINE TELECOM, QUICKCOM, SEMICON, TOPWIN, WELLCOM TELECOM SUPERMARKET, WIRELESS CONNECTION
PROVINCIAL: GRAPHIC ALL-IN STORES (Cagayan de Oro), JUNREX (Cebu), POS MARKETING (Bacolod/ Ilollo), WILTELCOM (Davao)

LUCKY CARDHOLDERS WON BACK THEIR 2004 PURCHASES WITH VISA

Shopping has never been as great as now! The ***VISA GREAT REBATE PROMO*** gave Visa card users the chance to win back the amount of his or her purchases for the entire 2004 up to maximum of P500,000.00. That's like enjoying shopping for free.

Under the promo, shoppers who charged as little as P500.00 worth of purchases on a single receipt to their Visa cards could register their transactions to qualify for the rebate. Registration was either by SMS, through the visa website www.hblmasia.com/visa or by calling the landline and toll free numbers of Visa. Purchases made abroad also qualified. The entries were picked electronically and the winners were reimbursed the full amount of the purchases they made with their Visa cards from 1 January to 31 December 2004 or one day before the draw date, whichever came first.

From 11 November 2004 to 24 January 2005, six (6) winners were picked and now enjoy the products they purchased plus the money they shelled out for them has been returned in full! One of the winners got back the P500,000.00 she spent shopping with her Visa, while another got reimbursed over P400,000.00. These winners will attest that it really pays to use your Visa card!

Here's what the winners have to say:

Rachel M. Singian
11 November 2004 winner

"You don't need to carry cash when you have a Visa card,"

For someone who has never won a major prize in any promo or raffle, Rachel Singian still remained hopeful that she would win in the Visa Great Rebate promo, particularly since she registered 20 entries before the first draw on 11 November 2004. Rachel learned about the promo through a newspaper advertisement shown to her by her brother-in-law.

"I use my Visa card often as it is one of my favored cards, particularly since I earn rewards points when I use it. Since the Visa Great Rebate promo started, it is the only card I've been using," she said.

The hope to win the raffle turned into reality as Rachel was the first winner of the promo. "I was in disbelief when I was told that I won. I thought somebody was playing a joke on me. I kept asking the Visa office to further convince me that it was real," she said. It was a perfect birthday gift for her as Rachel had just celebrated her birthday in December.

Rachel often uses her Visa card when shopping, eating out and when traveling. As a businesswoman, Rachel is no stranger to the convenience offered by Visa cards.

Mennie So, Visa International Marketing Manager, congratulates Rachel Singian, the first winner of the Visa Great Rebate Promo.

Rafael Villadiego
25 November 2004 winner

"... It felt good to get your purchases back. And the timing couldn't have been better – during the Christmas season,"

Rafael won P42,205.90 on the 25 November 2004 draw. Rafael came to know the Visa promo from newspaper ads. He sent a lot of entries because he uses his Visa cards all the time in connection with his work, which always takes him out of town. Since he doesn't want to carry a lot of cash, having his Visa is very convenient for him. Rafael is currently working on his dream project involving countryside development. His work mainly involves developing an agribusiness and tourism estate in the Saranggani/General Santos area.

Rafael has maintained two Visa cards since 1996. He finds the cards handy because they are widely accepted even in the provinces and abroad. Did it ever cross his mind that he would win in the Visa promo? "Yes, from the start, I had a feeling that I would win." Call it 'good luck' instinct!

Dennis Buenviaje
9 December 2004 winner

Dennis Buenviaje, who works as a computer programmer, usually uses his Visa card when eating out and gassing up. Although he still carries cash around, he said having a Visa credit card "can be convenient because if I don't have enough cash, I can still buy what I want."

A Visa card user for six years already, Dennis has never thought he would win the Visa Great Rebate Promo. His interest in the promo was piqued with flyers he had received and after entering ten entries, he was much surprised that he won. Dennis said that with his winnings, he would be treating family, friends and co-workers.

As testament to the convenience he enjoys with his Visa card, Dennis said that Visa is his only credit card and he has no plans of acquiring any other kind. "Use your Visa credit card more often because Visa might launch another rebate promo and who knows, you might be the lucky winner next time."

Suzette Arriesgado
23 December 2004 winner

"... I know there must be a million Visa cardholders in the country so I have a slim chance, but if it's meant for me then I will win," says Suzette Arriesgado, the 23 December winner of the promo.

'The first time I read in the newspaper that I won in the Visa Great Rebate Promo, I immediately called up my husband who was overseas. He was even more ecstatic than I was. Then he went, "Darling, I'm afraid, it only translates to one thing – more shopping funds for you again! I just hope we get luckier and grab another prize," exclaimed Suzette Arriesgado, the fourth winner of the Visa Great Rebate Promo.

Suzette, a businesswoman, won a total amount of P500,000.00, representing Visa transactions from 1 January to 22 December 2004. She bagged the maximum prize that a VISA cardholder could win in the promo.

Suzette uses her Visa card in most of her transactions because of its acceptability in almost all establishments in the country and overseas. Her advice to cardholders – "Use your Visa (card) regularly. Visa provides good service as well as attractive benefits such as their rewards program."

Jimarie Bungcasan
6 January 2005 winner

Luck played a significant part in Jimarie Bungcasan's winning back her purchases in the Visa Great Rebate promo. Encouraged to enter the promo because of the flyers attached to her monthly statement, she only registered one entry and, out of the many people who registered, her entry was picked in the 6 January 2005 draw. "I never thought I would win, especially since Visa cardholders are plenty. I only sent an entry via text once. In fact, I even thought my winning was a hoax but my husband and I later found out that it was real. I was that lucky, I guess," she said.

Jimarie, a bank employee, often uses her Visa card for shopping and eating out. A Visa card user since 1999, she has found that Visa offers a different kind of convenience because it is widely accepted. In winning back her purchases, Jimarie plans to put the money back into her savings account. Given her win, Jimarie said,"It is very rewarding to use your Visa card because you may get a chance to 'win back' your purchases."

Cristina Sayon
24 January 2005

"...Winning the Visa Great Rebate has restored my faith in promotional campaigns"

Cristina Sayon admitted that she has always been fond of joining raffle promos, but never thought that she would ever succeed in winning a major prize, until that fateful afternoon when she received a phone call that she was chosen as the sixth winner of the Visa Great Rebate Promo.

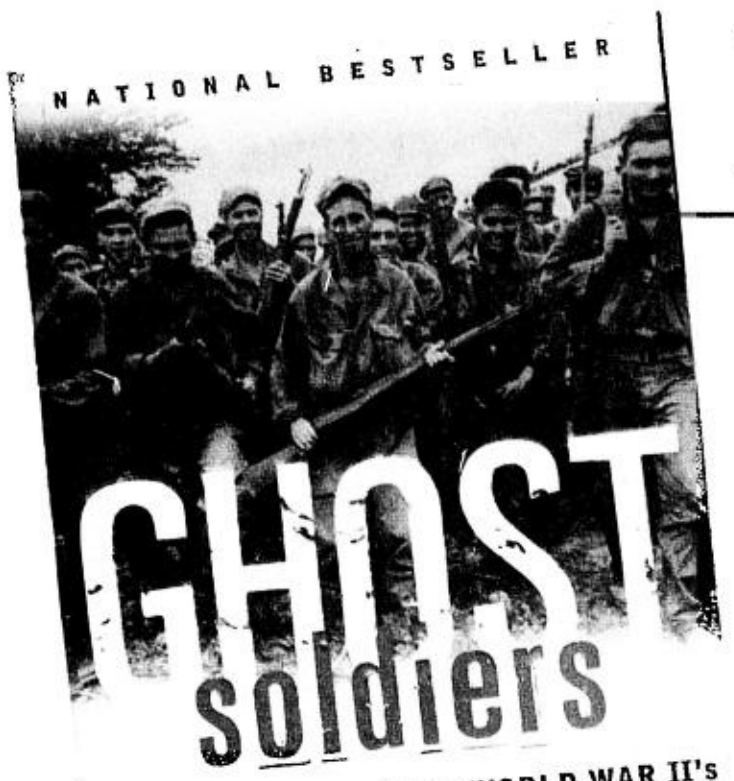
Cristina won a cash prize of P485,250.17 on 24 January 2005, representing purchases she made using her Visa card for the year 2004. Winning the promo has made it possible for her to realize her long-time plan to take her family on a grand vacation. She intends to bring her family to Singapore for the Holy week, which is perfect since she's been working for eight years straight as an administrative officer for a German construction company.

More than the vacation, winning in the Great Rebate promo will change Cristina's life forever as this will enable her to pay in full the house and lot in Cavite that her family has been amortizing for the past 8 years.

Cristina uses her Visa Card regularly when shopping for groceries. She loves the convenience of shopping with her Visa card because of its reliability and the safety it gives her. She also likes the fact that there are no hidden charges in her Visa card bills. Says Christina, "Using a credit card should not be viewed as a license to spend irresponsibly. Good financial management comes with discipline and not giving in to temptation."

Good value, reliable, most preferred, wide acceptance are just some of the Visa qualities cited by the winners. The "winnings" are add-ons to the vast benefits Visa cardholders are able to experience and enjoy from this partnership with Visa. In the end, it is the comfort, reliability, and convenience that remain at the top of the mind of the winners of the Visa Great Rebate Promo package.

VISA
All it takes.


NATIONAL BESTSELLER
GHOST soldiers
THE EPIC ACCOUNT OF WORLD WAR II's GREATEST RESCUE MISSION
"Riveting and patriotically stirring." —The New York Times
HAMPTON SIDES

Ghosts of the last war relived

Hampton Sides, best-selling author of the book about the great Cabanatuan raid, is in Manila to join the 60th celebration of the end of the Pacific War

By Lito B. Zulueta

THERE'S a certain boyish innocence when Hampton Sides talks about the research that went into "Ghost Soldiers" (Anchor Books, 2001 344 pages), his acclaimed account of the rescue of American POW's from the Cabanatuan internment camp toward the end of the Second World War. "One of the great things about doing the book was meeting the men who took part in the raid," he said in a lecture at the University of Santo Tomas recently. "They were like my uncles."

Here in the Philippines to attend a whirlwind of activities in connection with the 60th anniversary of the end of the war, Sides is tall, tanned and handsome, and ruggedly avuncular in his brown suit and writerly in his silver spectacles. He had arrived late in UST that afternoon from a talk up at St. Louis University in Baguio City, and even before that, he had been to Cabanatuan City where public ceremonies were held to commemorate the raid. The next day he would be at the Ateneo for another lecture, and the day after, back in UST to join 26 surviving internees of the Santo Tomas internment camp together with their families and American Ambassador Francis Ricciardone in opening an exhibit at the UST Museum to commemorate the camp's liberation on Jan. 28, 1945.

The occasion afforded Sides and nearly everyone who wasn't there at the end of the war to live the experience. UST was the internment camp for some 3,500 American civilians as well as for Europeans on the allied side (there were Spanish prisoners as well, which surprised many since Spain was neutral during the war). Although the prisoners were non-combatants, they shared the travails and hardships of the American POW's in other camps, notably Los Baños and Cabanatuan. The long imprisonment took its toll on their health so that when they were rescued at the end of the war, they were extremely emaciated, barely able to stand up and cheer the liberators.

THE BEST-SELLING author taking sides in a lecture

Holocaust

The haste with which the American forces sought to liberate the camp is partly explained in Sides' book. The month before, on Dec. 14, 1944, the Japanese had massacred some 150 American POW's in Puerto Princesa, Palawan. They had ordered the prisoners to descend to the air-raid hovels ostensibly because of an American attack. When the prisoners obeyed, the Japanese poured fuel on the hovels and set them on fire. Those who escaped the incineration were bayoneted or shot down. Only a handful lived to tell the tale.

Sides tells the story of the Puerto Princesa holocaust in cinematic terms, but without gimmicky sensationalism. The prologue provides the foundation for his story of the Cabanatuan raid, which the Americans undertook for fear the Japanese had decided as a matter of policy to exterminate POW's.

Why the Japanese decided to violate the conventions of war could have something to do with their experience of the conquest of the islands in 1941, Sides shows. Against their expectations, the American and Philippine forces held out in Bataan and Corregidor, and the protracted stalemate was wounding for the Japanese boast of invincibility. And even when Bataan surrendered, the Japanese still had to uproot the American forces in Corregidor, so the high command ordered the prisoners to undertake the infamous Death March to Tarlac. The march left the prisoners to the mercies of Japanese soldiers. A combination of hatred against the Americans for holding out so long and contempt for them since surrender was alien to the Bushido code explained their murderous regard of the POW's, which was worsened when the tide of war turned against them.

Hell

The Bataan march is now considered one of the most harrowing incidents of the last war. It is said that both those who fell by the wayside and those who survived became convinced heaven was their destiny: "they knew they would go to heaven because they had spent time in hell." But perhaps the worse hell was reserved really for the survivors, who became known as the "ghost soldiers," soldiers who had died many times over but continued to live and face the uncertainty and harshness of prison life under the Japanese.

But the fact that the POW's and other internees survived should point to human character and spirit. Asked by a student what lessons he learned in researching the book, Sides said he came to the conclusion that the survivors possessed certain qualities that forced them to struggle and survive amid a desperate situation.

"Whatever their denomination, they had faith in God," Sides said of the survivors. "There was also a certain spirit of optimism—an indefinable quality but nonetheless something real. And they didn't let hatred of the Japanese consume them."

The Cabanatuan rescue involved 121 US Rangers and about 80 Filipino guerrillas in an operation that was fraught with risk. Part of the beauty of the narrative is that Sides takes pains to draw a wonderful characterization of those who took part in it, like the leader, Lt. Col. Henry Mucci, a downsized Douglas MacArthur minus the oversized ego.

Sides does not gloss over the Filipino participation in the rescue. Led by Eduardo Joson, the guerrillas are presented as loyal and capable, and Sides does not condescend to them. He even suggests the Philippines was a crossfire victim. "Once again, two nations from across the seas were thrashing it out on Philippine soil, and once again, they were caught in the maelstrom," Sides writes. "Like history's stepchildren, the Philippine people repeatedly seemed to bear the brunt of other people's arguments."

In his UST lecture, Sides stressed the role of Filipinos in the rescue. He described the raid as a "high watermark in the Pacific war and high watermark in Philippine-American relations."

In the end, the 500 POW's were saved. The mission was trumpeted as the most daring of its time, and its romance seems to continue to hold sway to this day so that a Miramax movie has been made about it, "The Great Raid," starring Benjamin Bratt and Cesar Montano.

Sides said that he had seen the movie and was gratified it had none of the triumphalism associated with World War II movies and, closer to home, the jingoism in the wake of 9/11. "I was skeptical at first," he said. "But they did a good job. They showed that the Filipino guerrillas played a big role."

Even in victory, there can be no triumphalism, Sides sadly told the UST students. "Although the Cabanatuan mission was successful, the backside was dark—why do we have wars? We come to the realization that war is a terrible thing."

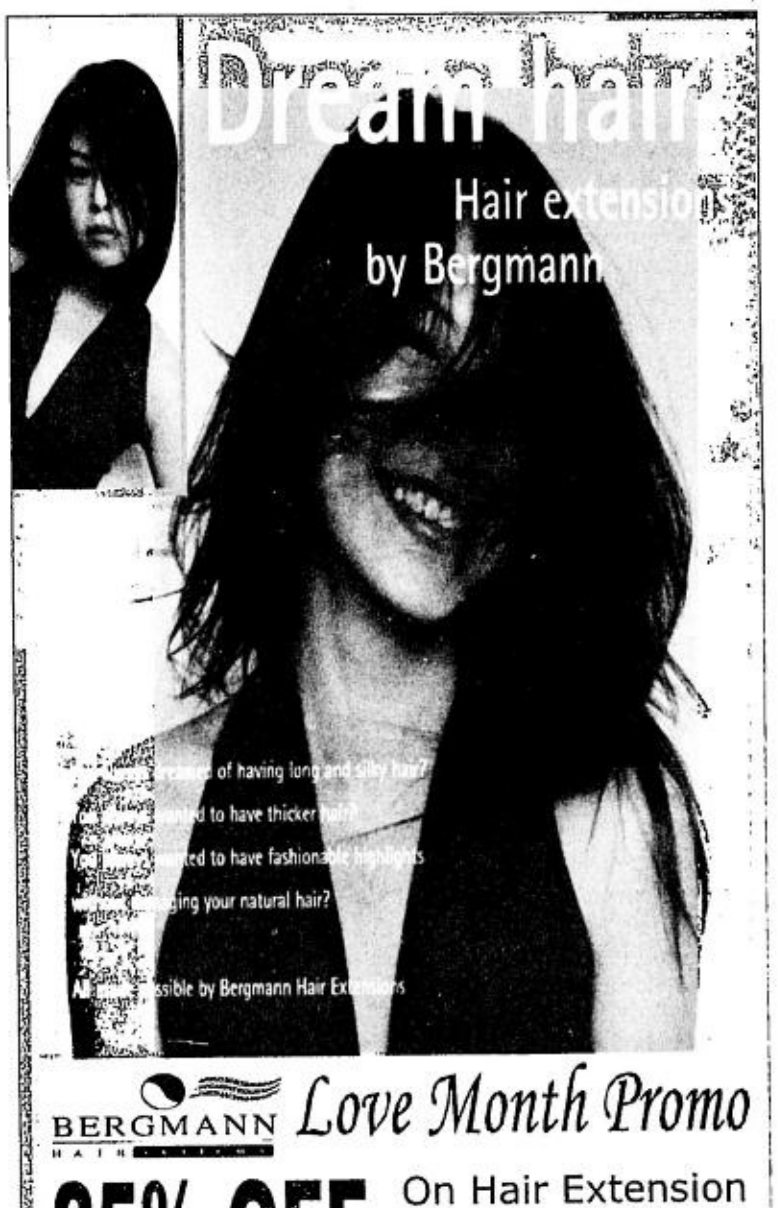
"Ghost Soldiers" is available at National Bookstore, Power Books and Solidaridad. A history exhibit on the liberation of the Santo Tomas internment camp is running at the UST Museum of Arts and Sciences. A photographic exhibit of American colonial architecture is running at the UST Beato Angelico Gallery. Call 7313544.

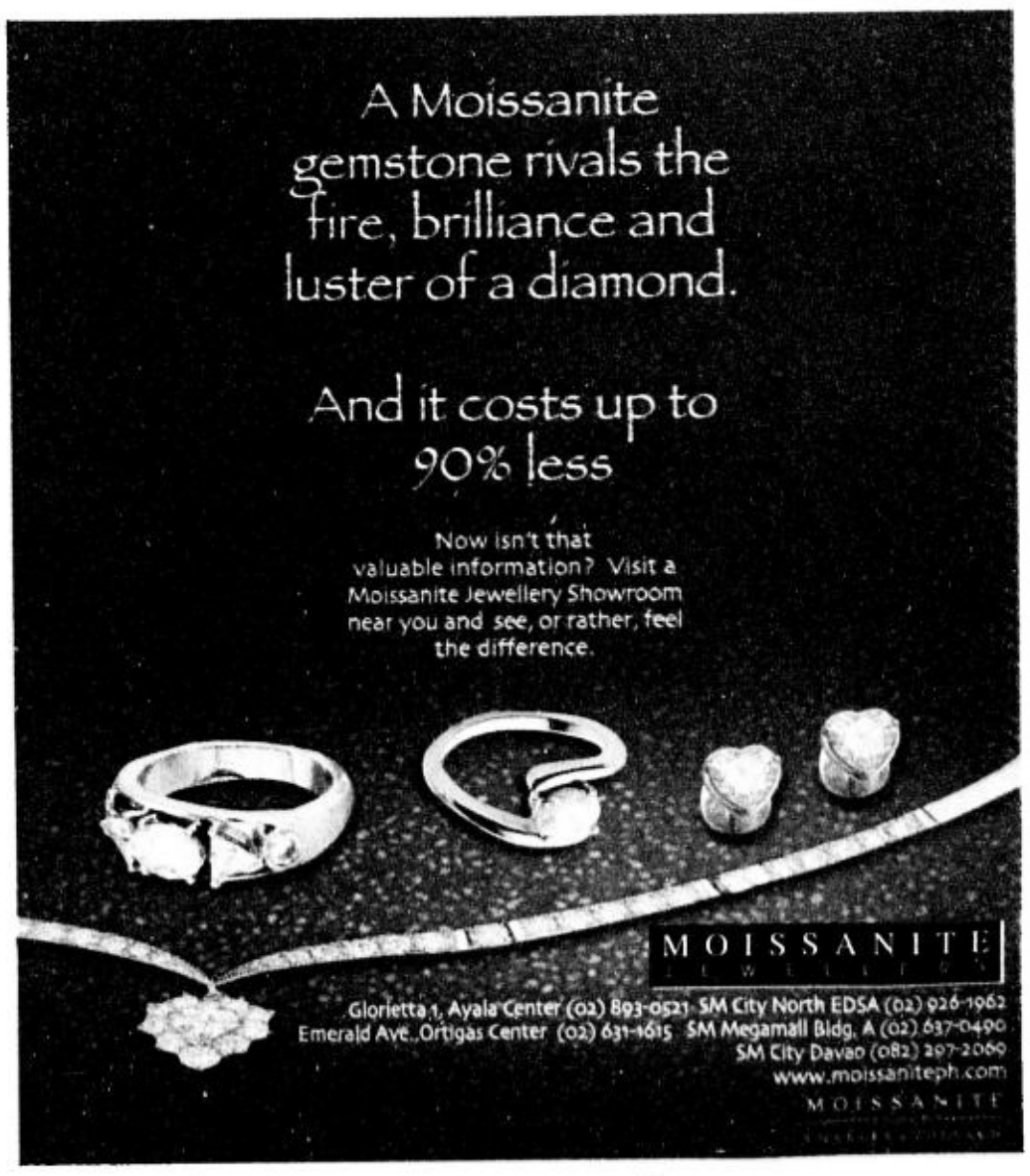
FILIPINO guerrillas who took part in the Cabanatuan raid

ROLAND Post of the US Embassy leads 26 surviving American internees of the Santo Tomas internment camp in offering a prayer. With him is the UST rector magnificus, Fr. Tamerlane Lana, O.P.

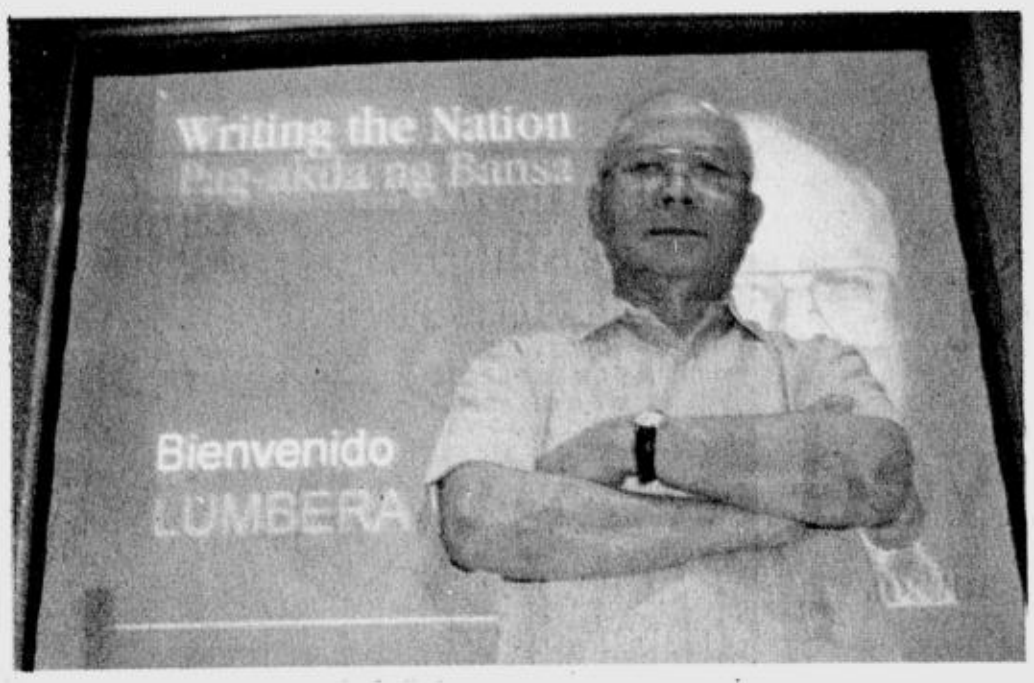
PAUL JASON JAUD

A Figure Worth Looking!
Be A Total Stand Out with
BUTTOCKS AUGMENTATION w/ HYDROGEL
A MODERN-DAY ENHANCEMENT...
FOR A BEAUTY THAT IS A TOTAL STAND OUT!
OTHER SERVICES:
• Breast Augmentation
• Liposuction
• Nose Lift
• Eyebag Removal
• Double Eyelid
• Scar Revision
• Botox Injection
• Diamond Peel
• Warts Removal
• Peeling & Body Bleaching
• Varicose Vein
• Facial Treatment
• Dermabrasion
FRANCINE PRIETO
MOVIE ACTRESS
Enhance
COSMETIC SURGERY & SKIN CARE CENTER
SOON TO OPEN AT SM FAIRVIEW
TRUST ONLY THE EXPERT CARE BY A QUALIFIED COSMETIC SURGEON
THE SM CITY ANNEX BUILDING BASEMENT LEVEL TEL. NO.: 920-9205
MAIN OFFICE: DAVID SURGI-CENTER #32 Times St. cor. West 4, Quezon Ave., Quezon City, Phils.
Tel. No.: 371-8189 • 411-0870 • 431-9342


Dream hair
Hair extension
by Bergmann
BERGMANN HAIR
Love Month Promo
25% OFF
On Hair Extension
From Feb 5 - 28
Visit or call us at:
Unit 1410 Jollibee Plaza Emerald Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City 6339173
Unit 1209 Medical Plaza Amorsolo cor., Dela rosa Sts., Makati City 8440580
bergmannhair@tri-lsys.com


A Moissanite gemstone rivals the fire, brilliance and luster of a diamond.
And it costs up to 90% less
Now isn't that valuable information? Visit a Moissanite Jewellery Showroom near you and see, or rather, feel the difference.
MOISSANITE
Glorietta 1, Ayala Center (02) 893-0521 SM City North EDSA (02) 926-1962
Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center (02) 631-1615 SM Megamall Bldg. A (02) 637-0490
SM City Davao (082) 297-2069
www.moissaniteph.com
MOISSANITE

Lumbera honored



RAMON Magsaysay laureate Bienvenido Lumbera was awarded a special citation for exemplary pedagogy by the Ateneo Center for English Language Teaching.

He was cited for "creating a space for scholarly research on vernacular literature at the Ateneo de Manila University in the 1960s when literature in English was the privileged body of writing; for spearheading moves toward the production of truly nationalist writing, both creative and critical, in the succeeding decades, when much of such writing remained colonialist or neocolonial; for always cultivating a critical outlook in his numerous works that study popular media, while media consumers are often only lulled into a state of distraction; and for instilling in his students the need to use their critical faculties in seeking to understand various types of cultural texts, when they are usually taught to consider critique as merely a set of tools to be acquired and mechanically applied."

MARIA Luz Vilches, chair of the Ateneo Center for English Language Teaching, awards special citation to Bienvenido Lumbera PHOTOS: RAFFY LERMA

Nationwide proverb-writing contest announces second-week winners

THE PROVERBS of April Jade Imson and Ferdinand Bajado reign over 4,000 other entries in the second week of Textula Pinoy, the poetry writing contest through SMS technology of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts in observance of the 2005 National Arts Month.

Greg Rodillo, Noi Cruz, Roger Endaya, Limuel Abrogena, Raymund Pambid, and Joel Costa Malabanan are the consolation prize winners.

Bajado was a Text Makata ng Linggo from last week while Imson is an M.A. Panitikan student from UP.

National Artist Virgilio Almario, chair of the board of judges, lamented the lack of insight in most of this week's entries which apparently stemmed from the lack of proper education on environmental protection. He also regretted that very few entries commented on the small acts that greatly contributed to environmental degradation (rampant use of styrofoam, detergents, plastics).

Here are the winning entries:

Naghihilod ba si Lam-ang
Sa Pasig kaya masangsang?
–April Jade Imson

Apitong, akasya't nara,
Huwag ilagay sa bulsa.
–Ferdinand Bajado

Ang gubat 'pag ginahasa,
Ganti ay bagsik ng baha.
–Raymund Pambid

Nakoryente si Kabayan
Pagkat walang madapuan.
–Joel Costa Malabanan

Kagubata'y hindi buhok
Na may peluka sa panot.
–Noi Cruz

Pagyamanan? Pagyamanin?
Ang nahuli ang unahin.
–Noi Cruz

Ang yumuyukod sa lupa
May langit na napapala
–Roger Endaya

Sa palad ngayo'y 'sang binhi
Ipunla't yaman ng lahi.
–Limuel Abrogena

Saliwan ta ang kundiman
Ng lagaslas sa batisan.
–Greg Rodillo

Mamamatay si Marina
Sa tubig na may basura.
–Rowell Madula

Contestants must text in their entries along with their names and addresses to any of the following numbers: 0927-9245242 or 0927-9245243. Entries will be received anytime from Monday to Friday but not later than 5 p.m. of Friday of each contest week. Every week for the month of February, judges will pick two winners (Text Makata ng Linggo) who will receive P5,000 each. Eight consolation prizes of P2,000 each will also be awarded. The winning entries will be compiled in a book which will be released at the awarding ceremonies. Call 9221830.

TextulaPinoy is sponsored by the NCCA, in cooperation with the Filipinas Institute of Translation Inc., Globe Telecom, and the UP Institute of Creative Writing.

Call for entries to the National Writers Workshop

EDITH L. Tiempo, National Artist for Literature and director of the National Writers Workshop, announces the opening of a new writing component to the regular three-week workshop to be held on May 9-28, 2005.

The First International Creative Non-Fiction Workshop is scheduled for two weeks as part of the regular National Writers Workshop program in May.

The new component is spearheaded by Gemino H. Abad and Alfred A. Yuson in coordination with Rowena T. Torrevillas and Robin Hemley of the University of Iowa, who will be both part of the usual three-weeks' panel of critics. Hemley is also bringing in 12 members of his Creative Non-Fiction class to join with the regular workshop fellows.

Tiempo announces the National Writers Workshop is now open for fellowship applications from writers of poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction (essay) and drama. Deadline for submission is March 31, 2005.

Requirements for fellowship application are as follows:

1. Application letter for fellowship addressed to:
Edith L. Tiempo
National Artist for Literature and Director, National Writers Workshop c/o CAP College Foundation, Inc.
2F CAP Building, Rizal Boulevard, 6200 Dumaguete City

2. Original manuscripts of at least 3-5 short stories; 7-10 poems; 3-5 essays / creative non-fiction; or two one-act plays. Only unpublished manuscripts will be accepted. Works which have previously won in literary contests will not be accepted.

3. Resumé with 2 x 2 photo (colored or black-and-white)

4. Diskcopy of works or manuscripts preferably in Aldus Pagemaker 5.0 or MS Word

5. Certification that the works are original from a renowned writer or literature teacher

The fellowship covers lodging for 21 days, modest stipend, and one-way fare reimbursement.

The panel of critics taking turns for the three-week sessions are the following: Abad. Adrian Cristobal, Jose Y. Dalisay, Ophelia A. Dimalanta, Marjorie Evasco, David Genotiva, Susan S. Lara, Jaime An Lim, Charlson Ong, D.M. Reyes, Dr. Benilda S. Santos, Dr. Anthony L. Tan, Yuson and Lito Zulueta.

Assisting are the three resident writers who compose the Committee screening the Fellowship applications.

New Dalisay book out

MILFLORES Publishing, Inc. has released "Man Overboard: Essays by, for and of the Smart Filipino Male," by Jose "Butch" Dalisay Jr.

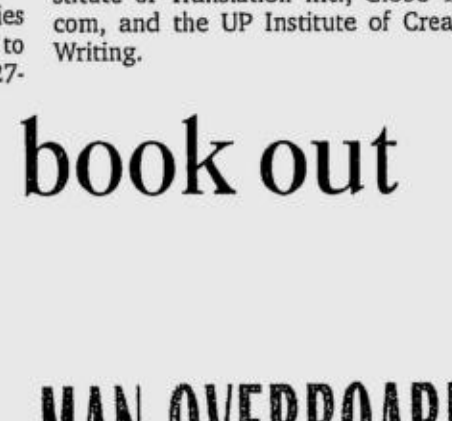
In his latest collection of urbane, witty and exquisitely crafted essays, Dalisay focuses his formidable intellect on such diverse subjects as cars, kenkoy kits, khakis, spectacles, technological gadgets, Internet spam, travel, *barkadas*, ageing, the literate libido, books, diets and much more.

Dalisay graduated from the Philippine Science High School and holds a Ph.D. in English (Creative Writing) from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He is the vice president for Public Affairs of the University of the Philippines, where he teaches. He has written numerous novels, stories, plays and essays that have won national and international awards, including a place in the Hall of Fame of the Palanca Literary Awards.

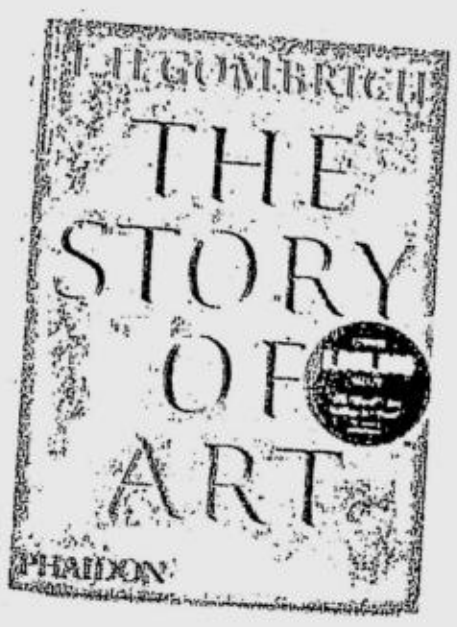
The cover is by Mes de Guzman, award-winning graphic designer, writer and filmmaker. The very funny illustrations are by Robert Magnuson in his inimitable comic book style.

"Man Overboard" is available at all National Book Stores, PowerBooks, and other major book stores at P360 per copy.

Call 7216431 or e-mail milflores@pacific.net.ph.



Classic book on art has new edition



"THE STORY of Art" by Ernst H. Gombrich is one of the most influential and famous books on art ever published. Now on its 16th edition, this masterpiece of a book not only discusses the works of art with passion and wisdom, it's also a visual journey into history, taking us from the earliest cave paintings to recent contemporary practices.

It presents the details and facts in a direct and simple way, yet is undeniably rich and explicit enough to satisfy any reader of all backgrounds and ages. Gombrich presents the art world in a conversational and intimate manner, leading the readers along a pleasurable journey of art and ideas.

Widely read and highly respected, "The Story of Art" is a recommended read for every art connoisseur and scholar. The generous materials used in the printing of this book further enliven the many pictures of art in its pages. With its art history and criticism approved by authorities of the art world and supported by scholars, "The Story of Art" is a work of art in itself, speaking in a united and spirited manner for the progression of the arts.

Available at National Book Stores nationwide.

Hollywood's health bible

FOR HEALTH buffs, the "5 Factor Fitness" by Harley Pasternak presents the diet and fitness secrets of Hollywood's A-list such as Halle Berry, Christian Slater and Eliza Dushku.

The book gives people the chance to bodies like those of celebrities in just five weeks of five meals a day (with five minutes of cooking for each), and five workouts a week (with five-minute phases for each workout).

"Natural Health, Natural Medicine" is the new edition of Dr. Andrew Weil's best-selling book, expanded and completely updated with new medical information. This book contains information on natural medicine: up-to-date scientific findings, simple recipes, useful tips and home remedies.

Heart attacks are as tragic as they are preventable, and Dr. Bob Arnot's book, "Seven Steps to Stop a Heart Attack," can help people deal with heart attacks before they even occur. It offers information such as warning signs, the risks, correct diagnosis, the proper medications and effective procedures.

The books are available at National Book Store.

NVM Gonzalez Awards for short story and essay

THE 6TH NVM Gonzalez Awards are now open to all Filipino writers for the best short story in English published during the period November 2004 to September 30, 2005; and the best essay in English or Filipino, published or unpublished, on any short story by NVM Gonzalez which deals with the life-situation of the Filipino poor.

The best short-story carries the grand prize of P50,000, while the best essay garners P10,000 each for both English and Filipino. The deadline for submission is Oct. 15 this year.

The essay category is new. It is open to any college student whose entry is accompanied by a certification by the head of his/her English/Filipino Department (or equivalent academic department) as to the authorship of the essay and the bona fide status of the author (as a student) of his/her school.

The essay should be at least seven but not more than 10 pages, double-spaced, typed or computer-printed.

Neither story nor essay which has already won in a national contest will be considered by the judges, whose decision shall be final.

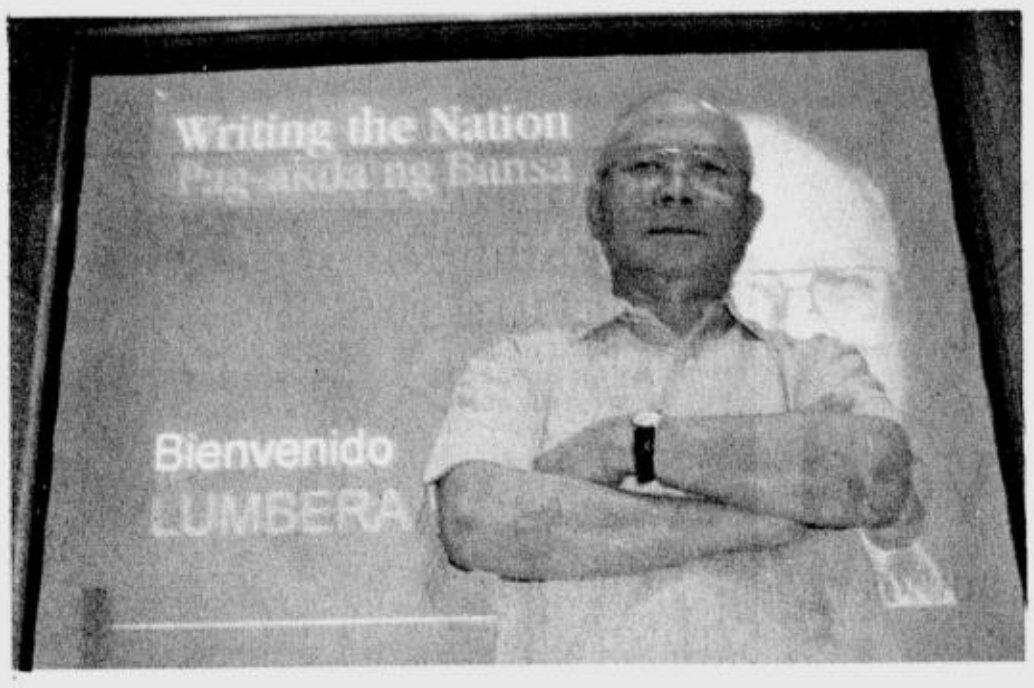
Six copies of the story and/or essay (including, for the story, its original published form) should be submitted under a pseudonym, together with a sealed envelope containing both pseudonym and author's real name and short profile, to: NVM Awards, P-57 A. Mabini St., Area 1, UP Diliman, Quezon City 1101.

The ceremonies for the awards will be held toward the end of November.

Call Chitty G. Cortes, 921-6429, Monday to Friday, 1-5 p.m. or email: nvmink@yahoo.com.

The awards honor the late National Artist for Literature NVM Gonzalez, for his commitment to the highest literary standards and his authentic portrayal of the Filipino, which have enriched our cultural heritage.

Lumbera honored



RAMON Magsaysay laureate Bienvenido Lumbera was awarded a special citation for exemplary pedagogy by the Ateneo Center for English Language Teaching.

He was cited for "creating a space for scholarly research on vernacular literature at the Ateneo de Manila University in the 1960s when literature in English was the privileged body of writing; for spearheading moves toward the production of truly nationalist writing, both creative and critical, in the succeeding decades, when much of such writing remained colonialist or neocolonial; for always cultivating a critical outlook in his numerous works that study popular media, while media consumers are often only lulled into a state of distraction; and for instilling in his students the need to use their critical faculties in seeking to understand various types of cultural texts, when they are usually taught to consider critique as merely a set of tools to be acquired and mechanically applied."

MARIA Luz Vilches, chair of the Ateneo Center for English Language Teaching, awards special citation to Bienvenido Lumbera PHOTOS. RAFFY LERMA

Nationwide proverb-writing contest announces second-week winners

THE PROVERBS of April Jade Imson and Ferdinand Bajado reign over 4,000 other entries in the second week of Textula Pinoy, the poetry writing contest through SMS technology of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts in observance of the 2005 National Arts Month.

Greg Rodillo, Noi Cruz, Roger Endaya, Limuel Abrogena, Raymund Pambid, and Joel Costa Malabanan are the consolation prize winners.

Bajado was a Text Makata ng Linggo from last week while Imson is an M.A. Panitikan student from UP.

National Artist Virgilio Almario, chair of the board of judges, lamented the lack of insight in most of this week's entries which apparently stemmed from the lack of proper education on environmental protection. He also regretted that very few entries commented on the small acts that greatly contributed to environmental degradation (rampant use of styrofoam, detergents, plastics).

Here are the winning entries:

Naghihilod ba si Lam-ang
Sa Pasig kaya masangsang?
–April Jade Imson

Apitong, akasya't nara,
Huwag ilagay sa bulsa.
–Ferdinand Bajado

Ang gubat 'pag ginahasa,
Ganti ay bagsik ng baha.
–Raymund Pambid

Nakoryente si Kabayan
Pagkat walang madapuan.
–Joel Costa Malabanan

Kagubata'y hindi buhok
Na may peluka sa panot.
–Noi Cruz

Pagyamanan? Pagyamanin?
Ang nahuli ang unahin.
–Noi Cruz

Ang yumuyukod sa lupa
May langit na napapala
–Roger Endaya

Sa palad ngayo'y 'sang binhi
Ipunla't yaman ng lahi.
–Limuel Abrogena

Saliwan ta ang kundiman
Ng lagaslas sa batisan.
–Greg Rodillo

Mamamatay si Marina
Sa tubig na may basura.
–Rowell Madula

Contestants must text in their entries along with their names and addresses to any of the following numbers: 0927-9245242 or 0927-9245243. Entries will be received anytime from Monday to Friday but not later than 5 p.m. of Friday of each contest week. Every week for the month of February, judges will pick two winners (Text Makata ng Linggo) who will receive P5,000 each. Eight consolation prizes of P2,000 each will also be awarded. The winning entries will be compiled in a book which will be released at the awarding ceremonies. Call 9221830.

TextulaPinoy is sponsored by the NCCA, in cooperation with the Filipinas Institute of Translation Inc., Globe Telecom, and the UP Institute of Creative Writing.

Call for entries to the National Writers Workshop

EDITH L. Tiempo, National Artist for Literature and director of the National Writers Workshop, announces the opening of a new writing component to the regular three-week workshop to be held on May 9-28, 2005.

The First International Creative Non-Fiction Workshop is scheduled for two weeks as part of the regular National Writers Workshop program in May.

The new component is spearheaded by Gemino H. Abad and Alfred A. Yuson in coordination with Rowena T. Torrevillas and Robin Hemley of the University of Iowa, who will be both part of the usual three-weeks' panel of critics. Hemley is also bringing in 12 members of his Creative Non-Fiction class to join with the regular workshop fellows.

Tiempo announces the National Writers Workshop is now open for fellowship applications from writers of poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction (essay) and drama. Deadline for submission is March 31, 2005.

Requirements for fellowship application are as follows:

1. Application letter for fellowship addressed to:
Edith L. Tiempo
National Artist for Literature and Director, National Writers Workshop c/o CAP College Foundation, Inc.
2F CAP Building, Rizal Boulevard, 6200 Dumaguete City

2. Original manuscripts of at least 3-5 short stories; 7-10 poems; 3-5 essays / creative non-fiction; or two one-act plays. Only unpublished manuscripts will be accepted. Works which have previously won in literary contests will not be accepted.

3. Resumé with 2 x 2 photo (colored or black-and-white)

4. Diskcopy of works or manuscripts preferably in Aldus Pagemaker 5.0 or MS Word

5. Certification that the works are original from a renowned writer or literature teacher

The fellowship covers lodging for 21 days, modest stipend, and one-way fare reimbursement.

The panel of critics taking turns for the three-week sessions are the following: Abad. Adrian Cristobal, Jose Y. Dalisay, Ophelia A. Dimalanta, Marjorie Evasco, David Genotiva, Susan S. Lara, Jaime An Lim, Charlson Ong, D.M. Reyes, Dr. Benilda S. Santos, Dr. Anthony L. Tan, Yuson and Lito Zulueta.

Assisting are the three resident writers who compose the Committee screening the Fellowship applications.

New Dalisay book out

MILFLORES Publishing, Inc. has released "Man Overboard: Essays by, for and of the Smart Filipino Male," by Jose "Butch" Dalisay Jr.

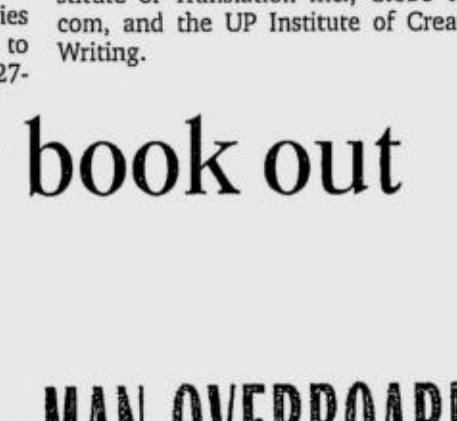
In his latest collection of urbane, witty and exquisitely crafted essays, Dalisay focuses his formidable intellect on such diverse subjects as cars, kenkoy kits, khakis, spectacles, technological gadgets, Internet spam, travel, *barkadas*, ageing, the literate libido, books, diets and much more.

Dalisay graduated from the Philippine Science High School and holds a Ph.D. in English (Creative Writing) from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He is the vice president for Public Affairs of the University of the Philippines, where he teaches. He has written numerous novels, stories, plays and essays that have won national and international awards, including a place in the Hall of Fame of the Palanca Literary Awards.

The cover is by Mes de Guzman, award-winning graphic designer, writer and filmmaker. The very funny illustrations are by Robert Magnuson in his inimitable comic book style.

"Man Overboard" is available at all National Book Stores, PowerBooks, and other major book stores at P360 per copy.

Call 7216431 or e-mail milflores@pacific.net.ph.



Classic book on art has new edition

"THE STORY of Art" by Ernst H. Gombrich is one of the most influential and famous books on art ever published. Now on its 16th edition, this masterpiece of a book not only discusses the works of art with passion and wisdom, it's also a visual journey into history, taking us from the earliest cave paintings to recent contemporary practices.

It presents the details and facts in a direct and simple way, yet is undeniably rich and explicit enough to satisfy any reader of all backgrounds and ages. Gombrich presents the art world in a conversational and intimate manner, leading the readers along a pleasurable journey of art and ideas.

Widely read and highly respected, "The Story of Art" is a recommended read for every art connoisseur and scholar. The generous materials used in the printing of this book further enliven the many pictures of art in its pages. With its art history and criticism approved by authorities of the art world and supported by scholars, "The Story of Art" is a work of art in itself, speaking in a united and spirited manner for the progression of the arts.

Available at National Book Stores nationwide.

NVM Gonzalez Awards for short story and essay

THE 6TH NVM Gonzalez Awards are now open to all Filipino writers for the best short story in English published during the period November 2004 to September 30, 2005; and the best essay in English or Filipino, published or unpublished, on any short story by NVM Gonzalez which deals with the life-situation of the Filipino poor.

The best short-story carries the grand prize of P50,000, while the best essay garners P10,000 each for both English and Filipino. The deadline for submission is Oct. 15 this year.

The essay category is new. It is open to any college student whose entry is accompanied by a certification by the head of his/her English/Filipino Department (or equivalent academic department) as to the authorship of the essay and the bona fide status of the author (as a student) of his/her school.

The essay should be at least seven but not more than 10 pages, double-spaced, typed or computer-printed.

Neither story nor essay which has already won in a national contest will be considered by the judges, whose decision shall be final.

Six copies of the story and/or essay (including, for the story, its original published form) should be submitted under a pseudonym, together with a sealed envelope containing both pseudonym and author's real name and short profile, to: NVM Awards, P-57 A. Mabini St., Area 1, UP Diliman, Quezon City 1101.

The ceremonies for the awards will be held toward the end of November.

Call Chitty G. Cortes, 921-6429, Monday to Friday, 1-5 p.m. or email: nvmink@yahoo.com.

The awards honor the late National Artist for Literature NVM Gonzalez, for his commitment to the highest literary standards and his authentic portrayal of the Filipino, which have enriched our cultural heritage.

Hollywood's health bible

FOR HEALTH buffs, the "5 Factor Fitness" by Harley Pasternak presents the diet and fitness secrets of Hollywood's A-list such as Halle Berry, Christian Slater and Eliza Dushku.

The book gives people the chance to bodies like those of celebrities in just five weeks of five meals a day (with five minutes of cooking for each), and five workouts a week (with five-minute phases for each workout).

"Natural Health, Natural Medicine" is the new edition of Dr. Andrew Weil's best-selling book, expanded and completely updated with new medical information. This book contains information on natural medicine: up-to-date scientific findings, simple recipes, useful tips and home remedies.

Heart attacks are as tragic as they are preventable, and Dr. Bob Arnot's book, "Seven Steps to Stop a Heart Attack," can help people deal with heart attacks before they even occur. It offers information such as warning signs, the risks, correct diagnosis, the proper medications and effective procedures.

The books are available at National Book Store.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

The R&B Princess and the Voice of Endearment
Bring the sound of love from your phone to your loved one with

PLDT Love Express.

No one sings it better than Kyla.
No one says it better than Joe D' Mango.
This Valentine season, share these voices of love with your special someone through PLDT Love Express.

PLDT lets you feel the love this February with a red hot kilig service that will surely make you blush. Dahil kung singing telegrams dati, PLDT Love Express na ngayon. Starting February 8 to 28, 2005, R&B princess Kyla serenades with the most romantic love songs while Love Notes' main man Joe D' Mango shares messages straight from the heart.

Tell your Valentine how you really feel. Simply dial 101-143, it's free of charge. Here you can choose from a dreamy selection of love messages that warms the heart. Send your darling a soulful sampling of Kyla's heartfelt a capella renditions like *Because of you, Always on time* and *I feel for you.* Let Joe D'Mango's engaging sentiments about writing love letters, falling in love for the first time and professing eternal love take your honey's breath away. For only P8.00, PLDT Love Express lets you send the sweetest love message to any PLDT landline or a Smart/ Talk N' Text Phone.

Of course there's nothing like your own voice to make your phone message more special. That's why PLDT Love Express lets you personalize your message by letting you add your own sentiments after each song or love note.

On this month of hearts, PLDT's heartwarming yet inexpensive innovation will make your Valentines a season to remember. So dial now and discover the new language of love. Let your true feelings be heard with PLDT Love Express.

Kyla

Album out in stores now!

PLDT
Love Express
DIAL 101-143

The Red Carpet Events

Get ready for endearing love duets and concerts to illuminate your evenings as PLDT and Metro Manila's most influential R&B station Wave 89.1 offer a stellar lineup of artists to sweep you off your feet.

Relive your romance with MYMP, Natural High and Passage Band. Savor the sweet voices of Nina, Viktoria and Rebekah. Belt your heart out with Thor, Mike Luis, and Noah. These fab performers will make sure you'll fall in love all over again all weekends of February at The Mega Strip, SM Megamall and The Garden, SM North Edsa.

These are just some of the many reasons to fall head-over-heels with PLDT this Valentines season. Expect more surprises to come from your one and only--PLDT.

Joe D' Mango

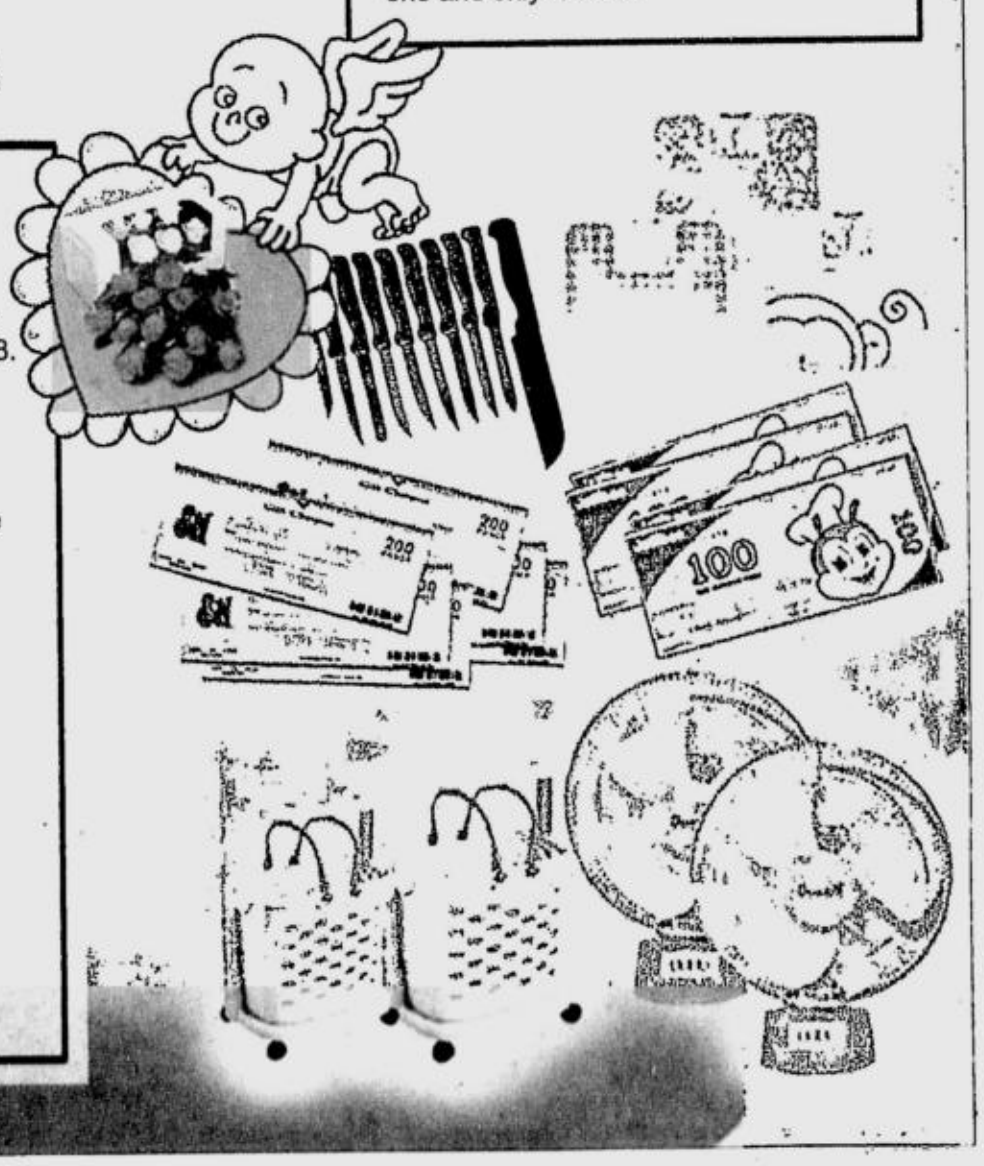
Red Hot Home Rewards at 40%

The month of love becomes more rewarding for PLDT Home Rewards members as they get 40% off on the required points to redeem any PLDT Home Rewards item. For a complete list of PLDT Home Rewards items, call 101-838.

PLDT Home Rewards members also get more exciting Valentine treats. The first 50 callers and February birthday celebrant callers will get special seats at PLDT Valentine events, a lovely night cap or a revealing one-on-one love reading session with Madam Rosa.

Even Cupid gets in on the action as he romances PLDT subscribers with gifts of chocolates and roses. Expect this love child from February 9 to 14 as he spreads the love in selected PLDT Offices in Metro Manila.

PLDT Subscribers who fail to activate their PLDT Home Rewards Account on or before February 28, 2005 will have all their accumulated points forfeited.



SMART GOLD

Express your love with SMART Gold's Karaoke Valentine promo.

Download Karaoke songs for a chance to win a Peugeot 206 CC sports car in the grand draw.

Capture love by downloading the Karaoke Player and SMART Gold's exclusive Karaoke Love Songs.

Register to earn raffle entries:
Send KREG <name/address/birthday> to 209

Every download of the Karaoke Player or Karaoke Love Songs earns you one raffle entry and a chance to win these heartwarming prizes.

WEEKLY PRIZE:

WOW! Magic Sing Premium Microphone

GRAND PRIZE:

WOW! Magic Sing Premium Microphone with Duet Microphone & T5 Songchip

WEEKLY PRIZE:

Apple iPod Shuffle (512MB)

GRAND PRIZE:

Peugeot 206 CC sports car

Promo period: February 12 to June 30, 2005.
See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0411, Series of 2005.

KARAOKE LOVE SONGS

SONGS	ARTIST	KEYWORD
To Where You Are	Josh Groban	kg1
If I Ain't Got You	Alicia Keys	kg2
The Way You Look Tonight	Michael Bublé	kg3
Because You Loved Me	Celine Dion	kg5
You're Still You	Josh Groban	kg6
Unbreak My Heart	Toni Braxton	kg8
Have You Ever	Brandy	kg9
Saving Forever For You	Shanice	kg10
I Turn To You	Christina Aguilera	kg11
Tattooed On My Mind	D' Sound	kg12
Weak	SWV/Jojo	kg13
Kailangan Kita	Gary V.	kg14
Pagbigyan Muli	Erik Santos	kg15

Text <**keyword**> to **209**

Send K or KARAOKE to 209.

ENJOY VIVID MULTIMEDIA FEATURES ON YOUR CELFONE. SET-UP SMART GPRS AND MMS.

To set **GPRS** Settings on your phone, text SET GPRS <phone model> to 211. Ex. SET GPRS <N6600>. To activate GPRS on your phone, text GPRS ON to 333.

To set **MMS** Settings on your phone, text SET MMS <phone model> to 211. Ex. SET MMS <N6600>. To activate MMS on your phone, text MMS ON to 333.

Open to all SMART Infinity, Addict Mobile, SMART Buddy, and Talk 'N Text subscribers.

Powered by: Entertainment Gateway Group

In Cooperation with: WOW! Magic Sing Premium Volume Anytime, Anywhere; Peugeot; AppleCenter

I ♥ SMART Simply Amazing!

For SMART Gold, SMART Buddy, Addict Mobile, and Talk 'N Text subscribers: Themes cost P30.00 each. MMS Wallpapers, ringtones and polytones cost P15.00 each. Text messages cost P2.50 each. Info on demand for all except Addict Mobile at P10.00; Addict Mobile's at P5.00.

For questions, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, *888 using your SMART cellfone, the SMART Corporate Hotline at 8888, send a text message to 888 (Standard rate in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation applies); e-mail us at smartgold@smart.com.ph; visit our website at www.smart.com.ph; or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

A Date That Lasts a Year

LOVE as the great equalizer. Christian, at 6'4" and Rowena, barely 5 feet tall, tie the knot despite cultural and personal differences.

GLOBALIZATION encompasses even the way people fall in love. Here's a story that crosses all borders

Love conquers more than height

By Aries B. Espinosa

IT WAS November 1999, a month before the turn of the millennium, and as fate would have it, 29-year-old Rowena Diaz's life would take an unexpected turn.

Rowena's friend Kimberly (not her real name) had an "eyeball" with Thomas Schmidt, a German Kimberly met in a chatroom while surfing the Internet. It was Kimberly and Thomas' first "EB", and Thomas planed in all the way from Germany to meet up with her. To accompany a nervous Kimberly was another friend, Lorna. Thomas was accompanied by another German, Christian Torlee.

The four got along well that day, and it was agreed that they would meet again. On the second meeting, Lorna was unable to come. Kimberly implored Rowena to accompany her instead. The latter relented.

The first time Rowena met Christian, Cupid's arrow missed its mark on Rowena completely. In her words, "I wasn't attracted to him. He looked too old for me. *At walang dating* (He seemed to have no character)!"

But it was a completely different impression Rowena made on the tall, soft-spoken Christian. He said, "It was love at first sight, and it felt like a hundred butterflies fluttered in my stomach whenever she was anywhere near me".

On Christian's last night in Manila, he handed Rowena a gift and a letter. In a taxi on her way home, Rowena read the letter, and it was then that she knew Christian was serious about his romantic intentions. "The letter was so sweet, and I felt that he really was smitten by me."

After a series of e-mail exchanges, Christian was back in the Philippines the next year. It was then that Christian got to work courting Rowena and gaining favor from her family. Christian was successful on both counts, and upon his third return to the Philippines, Rowena and Christian were dating steadily.

In April 2001, Christian invited Rowena to visit him in Germany to meet his family and friends in Hanover. In October of the same year, Christian went to the Philippines to celebrate Rowena's birthday in Boracay.

"Boracay was always our paradise island. No trip was complete without a stop here. He loved to dive. Boracay was his favorite dive spot."

It was also in Boracay that month that Christian undertook his most daring dive in life: he proposed marriage. Amidst clear blue skies, the sparkling waters of the South China Sea, and Christian's loving gaze, Rowena could simply not refuse.

After some delays in processing Rowena's papers for a permanent stay in Germany, the couple finally had a civil wedding on Feb. 15, 2003.

"It was a simple, intimate ceremony. Only family and select friends were there. Take note, I was the only Filipino on that occasion."

The tables were turned when Christian and Rowena had their church wedding in Manila November of 2003. Christian was the only German that time, and the occasion was doubly blessed with the presence of the couple's son Philipp.

Not a beach

Married life for Rowena and Christian, however, hasn't always been a beach — especially for Rowena, who has had to adjust to a completely foreign culture, while at the same time learning the ropes as a wife and a mother. "It's not easy here in Germany," she contemplates. "I still have to adjust to the climate, the people, the food, and most of all, the language."

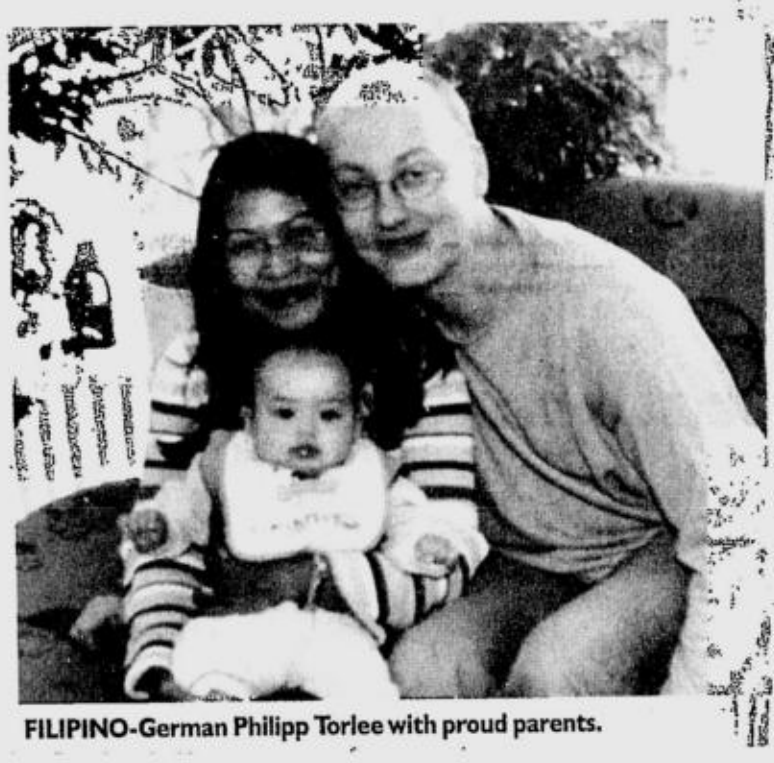
Language wasn't a problem at first. Christian knew how to speak English, but later on, as Rowena made her own trips around the neighborhood by herself, she realized she had to learn to speak German soonest. She then attended night school for German language for six months. She practiced what she learned on, who else, Christian.

"We're slowly sounding more and more like a German couple," Rowena laughs. "But I still have a lot to learn. I'll have to take another German language course after our vacation."

Rowena has also learned that some barriers are not limited to the language. "We have a lot of differences. We also have our *tampuhans*. He's neat and organized around the house, while I'm not. I don't really like his cooking, and he shows his distaste about mine. He's always on time, while I — typical Filipino — always have a ready shrug when I'm late. In the end, though, he always gives in to me, even if it's my fault. And he tells me that's how much he loves me."

Two years into the marriage, Rowena laughs that they still ar-

LOVE CONQUERS/J3



FILIPINO-German Philipp Torlee with proud parents.

25% OFF
on LaserLight Underarm Hair Removal!
EXTENDED!*

How can you resist?

No more shaving. No more plucking. No more unsightly, dark underarms. Only softer, smoother, whiter, hair-free underarms you can confidently show-off anytime! Just enroll for LaserLight underarm hair removal and get 25% discount. This irresistible offer is until **February 19, 2005*** only.

LaserLight is US-FDA-approved for permanent reduction of unsightly, unwanted hair anywhere on your body. Call the Facial Care Centre professionals NOW!

Facial care centre

*Approved by DTI NCR / Per DTI NCR Permit #0768 Series of 2005

CALL 892-SKIN (7546) Where Beautiful Skin Happens
www.facialcarecentre.com.ph

MAKATI ORTIGAS QUEZON CITY BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA (961-3404) CEBU (233-7631)

Create the magic of love with flowers

By Raquel P. Gomez

THE language of flowers, or the meaning we usually associate with them, for example, when we receive a bunch of red roses or daisies, is an expression beyond words.

"Flowers have always been a universal language," says florist Gidget Espinosa who manages The Florabella, a flowershop at 109 Rada Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City.

"They say a lot of feelings and symbolize varied messages. Every flower, every color conveys a meaning immediately. And the recipients are the ones who interpret the meaning when they receive the flowers."

With all the flowers she has arranged and sent, Espinosa, who has been in the flower business for more than 10 years, has witnessed many couples and families whose relationships flourished or sometimes flounder.

She has witnessed love blossoming between a man and a woman from courtship stage to marriage and birth of their children. The man kept getting flowers from her shop to send to the girl.

"When the couple got married, we were the ones who arranged the flowers in the church. When the woman gave birth, the man ordered flowers from us to send to her."

There was even a family who orders flowers for just about every occasion — Valentine's, birthdays, anniversaries — and even death.

"It gives you a certain high to see the happy reaction of people when they receive flowers. But there are sad moments too, when you see someone ordering flowers for a funeral. You see someone crying when filling out the order and you know something sad happened."

The tricky part of her profession as a florist is in determining the particular meaning the customer wants to convey with the flowers. Based on her experience, she has learned to discern the exact meaning and message a particular flower arrangement will result to.

"Customers often ask what the meaning of a particular flower arrangement is. Sometimes a customer wants to give a bunch of roses, but he doesn't want the girl to know that she is being courted. The guy just wants to have a bunch of flowers that has a 'have a nice day' message into it. Or the customer wants to put more meaning into the flowers by including a favorite perfume or a stuffed toy of the recipient."

The idea behind the inclusion of non-flower items into the flower gifts is for souvenirs or to make the gift last. Aside from the card, you would, of course, want to keep the cuddly bear after the flowers have wilted.

For dedications, Espinosa says they have already prepared a list of messages, as "men sometimes cannot compose very well their messages." There are occasions when Espinosa would compose the message on the spot based on the request of the customer.

"This service is really personalized. We input a lot and suggest a little more, and go the extra mile to relay the message."

There are amusing moments in the flower-giving tradition, such as occasions when a girl orders flowers for herself—to insinuate that a guy is courting her. "Especially this Valentine's season, there are girls out there, most of them work in the office, who want to receive flowers. I encountered this girl who ordered personally from me and I personally delivered the flowers to her in her office."

As to girls' attitudes toward the art of flower giving, it has changed too, according to Espinosa. Girls aren't content with receiving; they now order flowers for their boyfriends.

Florabella has a range of flower gifts for men, such as the popular spring arrangement with blue as motif — a bunch of blue roses that may include each of the following: a blue stuffed dog, a heart-shaped blue balloon, or a bottle of wine.

Today, when the whole world celebrates the day of love, Espinosa and her staff will be very busy helping create the magic of love through flowers. Espinosa says the orders during the love season (13th and 14th of February) can number to 400 or more - and these orders include those from the Website, corporate clients, and individuals.

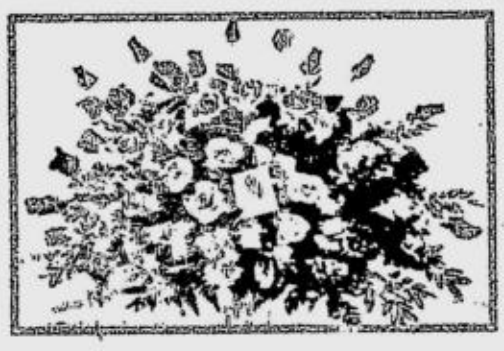
The prices for the gifts depend on the number of flowers and the arrangement. The pricey arrangements will fetch sums from P5,000 to P10,000. But for P500, you can have the classic three roses, which, says Espinosa, never fails to convey the meaning of love.

"If you look around Makati area, everybody's celebrating Valentine's. One rose will make a difference in the day of an individual."

Florabella can be reached at 752-2163 to 64, or log on to www.florabella.com.ph

Flowers never fail to convey the meaning of Valentine's, and even girls now order bunches of roses for their boyfriends

FLORIST Gidget Espinosa: One rose will make a difference in the day of an individual. PHOTO BY RAQUEL GOMEZ



Dressing up for the occasion

RED is the color of Valentine. However deeply romantic the hue may be, there are still other colors that bring in the excitement and fun this season of love — particularly in matching colors for dressing up.

Memo's Jorge Ochoa, brand communications manager, said that aside from red, men could always try apparel with brown, maroon, green and even pink (yes, pink!) hues. For the women, they are always stylish and alluring in different shades of pink, green, yellow, orange and blue.

MEMO answers the demand for imported quality materials, trendy designs and colors but with a price friendly to the professionals.

"February is going towards summer, so the colors are getting lighter."

Memo offers a range of collection for yuppies out there, people who most likely will spend a quality Valentine's evening with dates or partners after the work hours. Be it watching a movie or a concert, enjoying a nice dinner in a chic restaurant, walking the bay area, it's always advisable to wear something trendy and comfortable too said Ochoa.

"Filipino yuppies dress down to work. Dress codes or having uniforms at work is getting less; it's more of the casual office wear. They wear something at work fit for formal meetings, but when they go out, the apparel too is fit for a night out with friends."

Ochoa said this has been the trend in the workplace, the "relaxed and casual look for people aiming for success in careers," said Ochoa.

Memo has in mind the young urban professionals when the independent line of clothing from Penshoppe was introduced two years ago.

Ochoa said the market for Penshoppe, the popular brand of clothing worn by teenagers, has been maturing and there's a need to cater to that particular group who have finished their college degrees and are already working and enjoying careers.

He said Memo answers the demand for imported quality materials, trendy designs and colors but with a "price friendly to the professionals."

When Memo came out, the model for the trendy workplace clothing was a Caucasian and Ochoa said many people confused the local brand as an "imported" brand. The "imported" idea behind the brand stuck and yuppies started checking Memo items according to Ochoa. "It's because we use only good materials and the pieces are very contemporary and fit the yuppie's on-the-go lifestyle."

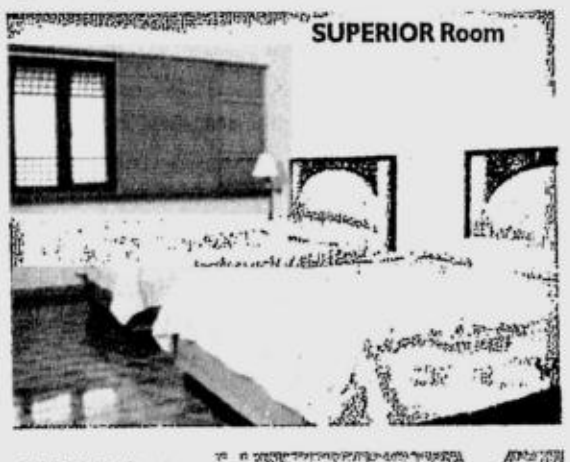
For Memo's campaign this month, two Hong Kong-based models will appear in Memo's ad layouts and promotional billboards. These fun loving and career-oriented individuals best represent the Memo generation of today.

Claire Fuller is a 24-year-old mannequin originally from United Kingdom. She was trying to be a professional ballerina in London when an agent spotted her. Her face has graced many advertising campaigns in the United Kingdom and parts of Asia, but the one that sticks out to her most was when she became Tarzan's darling Jane in a TV commercial.

Gregory Scott Belas, a six-foot American, was discovered in Maryland while digging in a construction site, and since then has worked all over Europe before coming to Asia.

"The funniest product I did was when I was in Tokyo," he said. "I had to wear a thong. You couldn't see my face but they took pictures of my butt. The next day, I was in GQ."

The two have been quite happy and successful in their chosen career of modeling. Being in Asia, particularly in the Philippines to do campaigns for Memo, is particularly welcome.



SUPERIOR Room

TEAM Suite

3 Valentine's treats at The Legend Villas

THE LEGEND Villas celebrates Valentine's Day with romantic, fun and affordable packages. Due to its high occupancy rating last year, it's bringing back the Romance, Serenity and Singles' Night packages. These packages were designed not only for couples but also for friends who want to hang out.

The Romance package (good for two) includes an overnight accommodation in a Superior Room with breakfast in bed, wine and cheese for only P2,999 net.

If you opt for a more relaxing package, Serenity (good for two) comes with an overnight Premier Villa Suite accommodation with breakfast in bed, wine and cheese and half body massage for two persons for only P3,999 net.

Your friends or family can enjoy the Singles' Night package (good for 4 to 6 persons) for only P4,699 net, which includes an overnight accommodation in a Team Suite, Family Style Breakfast served in the room, eat-all-you-can snacks from the mini bar and complimentary Valentine goodies.

For those who want to have dinner or lunch at the coffee shop, Lola Maria has whipped up a special Valentine's offering with live entertainment while dining.

This promo is valid from Feb. 10 to 20. For inquiries and reservations, visit The Legend Villas at 60 Pioneer corner Madison Streets, Mandaluyong City, or call 633-1501 to 10. E-mail reservations at roomrsvn@legendvillas.com.ph.

PREMIER Villa Suite

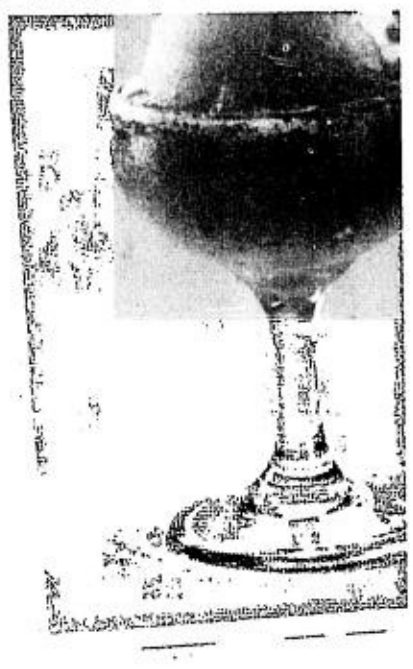
Romancing hearts come alive with Energel

RELIVE the romance in this month of love with Energel (vitamins and minerals with ginseng). Good for the heart and an efficient stress buster, each softgel contains vitamins and minerals, namely: vitamins A, D2, C, PP, E, B1, B2, B6, B12, calcium, phospore, choline hydrogen tartrate, DL-methionine, inositol, iron, calcium pantothenate, magnesium, potassium, ethylvanillin, copper, manganese, zinc, folic acid, and iodine.

In addition to the list of vitamins and minerals, Energel contains its most important ingredient, ginseng, a herb considered to be one of the "wonders of the world" - instrumental in improving memory, alertness, overall energy and vitality, particularly during times of fatigue and stress.

To know more about Energel, call the Metz hotline at 924-6701 or e-mail metz@pacific.net.ph. Energel is available in all Mercury drugstores nationwide.

Dads ultimate buffet's culinary adventure, spices and blooms



RICH in history and legend, the Mediterranean region was long thought of as the heart of the world and is recognized as the birthplace of some of the greatest civilizations. Feeding emperors and conquerors for millennia, Mediterranean cuisine is celebrated for being elegant, delicious and healthy.

Dads Ultimate Buffet serves you the food of Zeus, Caesar and Napoleon. Experience the finest dishes chosen from the Levantine coast to the Strait of Gibraltar at the Dads Mediterranean Carnival. Start out with Greek favorites such as Dolmadakia, stuffed grape leaves, or have some pita bread with Hummus, blended chick peas with tahini paste or Tzaziki, a cucumber and garlic dip. Move on to Soupe de Poisson Provencale, cubes of St. Peter's fish in a tomato puree. And for your entrée, take your pick from exotic Moroccan chicken with olives and cilantro, or fresh seafood dishes such as Mahi-Mahi con Verduras, Psari Prito, Fruti De Mare, and Carides me Feta, prepared according to authentic Mediterranean recipes. The health conscious can treat themselves to Imam Bayaldi, stuffed eggplant, or Horiatiki, a Greek summer salad. End your tour with the rich Mediterranean cake, a chocolate sponge with apricots and fondant.

In Japan, spring is a time to rejoice in new beginnings, and the Saisaki buffet is where good beginnings never end. The cherry trees are in bloom and the crabs swim up to spawn. Spring is also the time when sake brewers celebrate the successful close of the brewing year. Saisaki brings you the best of the Japanese spring with an array of tempting crab dishes and colorful sake concoctions. The Spring Festival starts off with Kani Tama, crab with egg soup, or Kani Chawan, steamed custard with crabstick. Stock up on Kani Chajan or Kani Kamameshi, steamed rice heavy with crabmeat and vegetables, or Kani Nabe, thick wheat noodles simmered with blue crab in a clear broth. Satisfy all your cravings for crab with Kani Omelette, Kani Tempura, or Kani Furai among other exciting crab creations in many appetizing combinations. The crab festival extends to the sushi bar with different delicious versions of Kani Maki and Kani Temaki, all colorfully crafted and presented. Mackerel lovers will also enjoy different offerings of fried or broiled fresh mackerel like Saba Teriyaki. Finally, toast the spring by taking a sip of either Yakuza or Geisha, two intoxicating sake drinks at the Saisaki Sake Bar.

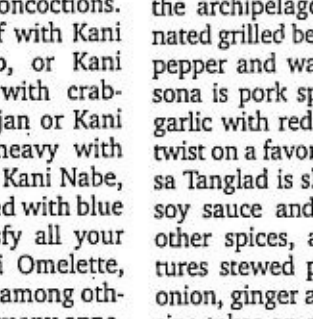
Spices have always been treasured for the excitement and passion they add to our lives. Once worth more than their weight in gold, many men have searched for a route to the legendary Spice Islands, including Magellan on his epic journey across the Pacific. But one should look no further than Kamayan to discover the spices of the Philippines. For the centerpiece, there is Lechon sa Tanglad, suckling pig roasted with lemon grass, split roasted until crisp. Warm up with a bowl of Bias Anghang, tangy and spicy shank of beef, or Sinigang na Isda sa Miso, fish soup with vegetables, tomatoes, miso and tamarind. A fortune in flavors awaits you once you uncover Kamayan's time-perfected recipes, enhanced by the spices of the archipelago. Bistik Wansoy is marinated grilled beef slices stir-fried with bell pepper and wansoy, while Gusok sa Lasona is pork spareribs sautéed in native garlic with red and green bell pepper. A twist on a favorite classic, Chicken Adobo sa Tanglad is sliced chicken simmered in soy sauce and pureed lemongrass and other spices, and Picadillo Tilapia features stewed pla-pla cooked in tomato, onion, ginger and pure gata. Filipino cuisine takes on a delectable new aroma at Kamayan, so trust your senses and tickle your taste buds.

Dads' Ultimate Buffet is the most value for money buffet selection, for it also offers Kamayan and Saisaki buffets for only P495 and at P395 during promo days.

For reservations and inquiries, call 531-6101 or 531-7292.

Love conquers more than height

From page 1



gue often. They are always aware, however, that this is just part of a healthy relationship.

For the couple, expanding the family a bit more is the immediate goal. "We want a second baby soon," she enthused.

As for returning for the Philippines, Rowena turns more pensive. "I still can't picture ourselves as grandmas or grandpas, or whether we'll come back to the Philippines for good," says Rowena, who turns 34 later this year (Christian is 35). "That's too far in the future. His work is here, and we just a bought a house here.

"In my heart though, I would really want to return to the Philippines. It's so lonesome growing old here in Germany."

True love knows no barriers, emotional or physical. And this is proven true when Rowena firmly says, "I will stay where my husband and son is."

"If he asked me now if I'd still marry him, after all that I've gone through so far, I would still say yes — a million times over. I have the best husband in the world. He himself said he would still marry me a million times over, too, even if he knew I was lazy," she chuckled.

Rowena says she would be forever grateful to Kimberly for having opened her next chapter in life. Peering a bit deeper, though, perhaps Rowena is even more thankful for living between two cultures where loving together and loving apart aren't necessarily conflicting ideas.

The taste of passion... for the day of passion.
MARIA CLARA
SANGRIA
Maria Clara Sangria.
The Red wine with a whisper of citrus.
Distributed by Convoy Marketing Corp. 147 Kalingin Rd., Quezon City

I ♥ PHILIPPINES

BIYAHE NA!

Download na!

LUZON • VISAYAS • MINDANAO

SMART Buddy GSM Pre-paid

Zone downloads

Get these exclusive downloads from DOT and SMART!

I ♥ DOWNLOADS

WALLPAPERS

MMS

LOGOS

PICTURE MESSAGES

For downloads, text <keyword> and send to 555.

PM CDO | 555

Logos, picture messages, MMS, wallpapers and ringtones cost P15 each.

RINGTONES

Keyword
MONO BIYAHENA - For monotone
POLY BIYAHENA - For polyphonic

I ♥ PLACES

Get information about 13 key destinations.

DESTINATION	KEYWORD
Metro Manila	MANILA
Boracay	BORACAY
Bacolod	BACOLOD
Davao	DAVAO
Cebu	CEBU
Palawan	PALAWAN
Vigan/Laoag	VIGAN or LAOAG
Benguet/Baguio	BENGUET or BAGUIO
Subic/Clark	SUBIC or CLARK
Bohol	BOHOL
Iloilo	ILOILO
Bicol	BICOL
Cagayan de Oro	CAGAYANDEORO

Text I LUV <keyword> and send to 555.

I LUV CEBU | 555

Know about the city's hotels, restaurants, shopping, nightlife, how to get there, etc.

EAT	Get info on restaurants
HOTELS	Get info on hotels
SHOPS	Get info on shops
NIGHT	Get info on nightlife
SIGHTS	Get info on sights
EVENTS	Get info on events
RIDE	Get info on how to get to and get around the city
DOWNLOADS	Get downloads on the city
SOS	Get police and medical info on the city

Text <DESTINATION> <keyword> and send to 555.

SUBIC EAT | 555

I ♥ FIESTAS

FESTIVAL CALENDAR

February
Panagbenga Flower Festival

March
Araw ng Dabaw

April
Pista'y Dayat
Bangus Festival

May
Pahiyas Festival
Magayon Festival
Kaogma Festival

June
Baragatan sa Palawan *(Foundation Day)*
Parada ng Lechon
Pintados Festival

July
Sandugo Festival

August
Kadayawan Festival
Kagay-an Festival

September
Peñafrancia Festival
La Hermosa Festival
Tuna Festival

October
Tigtigan Terakan
Masskara Festival

November
Higantes Festival
Lapu-Lapu

December
Galicayo Festival *(Our Lady of Manaoag)*
Giant Lantern Festival
Olongapo Mardi Gras

For more info, text I LUV and send to 555.

I ♥ SMART Simply Amazing!

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM PHILIPPINES

WOW PHILIPPINES

Available to all SMART Buddy, SMART Gold, Addict Mobile, Addict Mobile Prepaid and Talk 'N Text subscribers. For more details, call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111 or *888 on your SMART cellphone. Text us at 888 (P1.00/message sent in excess of the free text allocation). Email us at customercare@smart.com.ph or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

a day that lasts a year

Love immortalized in letters

Albums of letters and poems still kept after 35 years

By Joel V. Nigos
PHOTOS BY KARL C. SUMBELING

"HOW do I love thee? Let me count the ways." Is it by giving the woman in your life flowers, chocolates and cards on Valentine's Day or on any day of the year? Is it by pampering your man by providing all the care and the time that he needs? Or is it by adhering to those marriage vows that the union should be 'for richer and for poorer, in sickness and in health, 'til death do us part'?"

LOVE/ K2

She shares

that she's

always

inspired

everytime

she goes

over his

letters.

'Maybe it's

my way of

giving

back all

the love he

had given

me.'

Ultimate Date Places!

ULTIMATE Three-in-One BUFFET

DADS

PLUS SAISAKI & KAMAYAN Buffets

♥SM Megamall Tel 633-1758 • 634-2481
♥Glorietta III Tel 892-8897
♥Alabang Town Center Tel 807-5824 • 807-5825
♥Padre Faura Tel 528-1723 • 528-1724
♥Edsa Tel 705-1807 • 705-1809
♥West Avenue Tel 413-6359 • 413-6360

SAISAKI Buffet Festival
KANI (Japanese Crabstick)

DADS Buffet Festival
CARNIVALE
MEDITERRANEAN FESTIVAL

KAMAYAN Buffet Festival
Spices of the Philippines

Sake San
JAPANESE RESTAURANT AND SAKE BAR

SM MEGAMALL ORTIGAS
BLDG B, LEVEL 4
♥Tel 633-1758
♥ 634-2481

KAMAYAN Pasay Road

Saikono
The Best Japanese Teppanyaki

♥EDSA Tel 705-1807 • 705-1809
♥Alabang Town Center Tel 807-5824 • 807-5825

THE FIRST. THE ORIGINAL. THE BEST FILIPINO RESTAURANT
KAMAYAN PASAY ROAD
Tel 815-1463 ♥ 843-3604

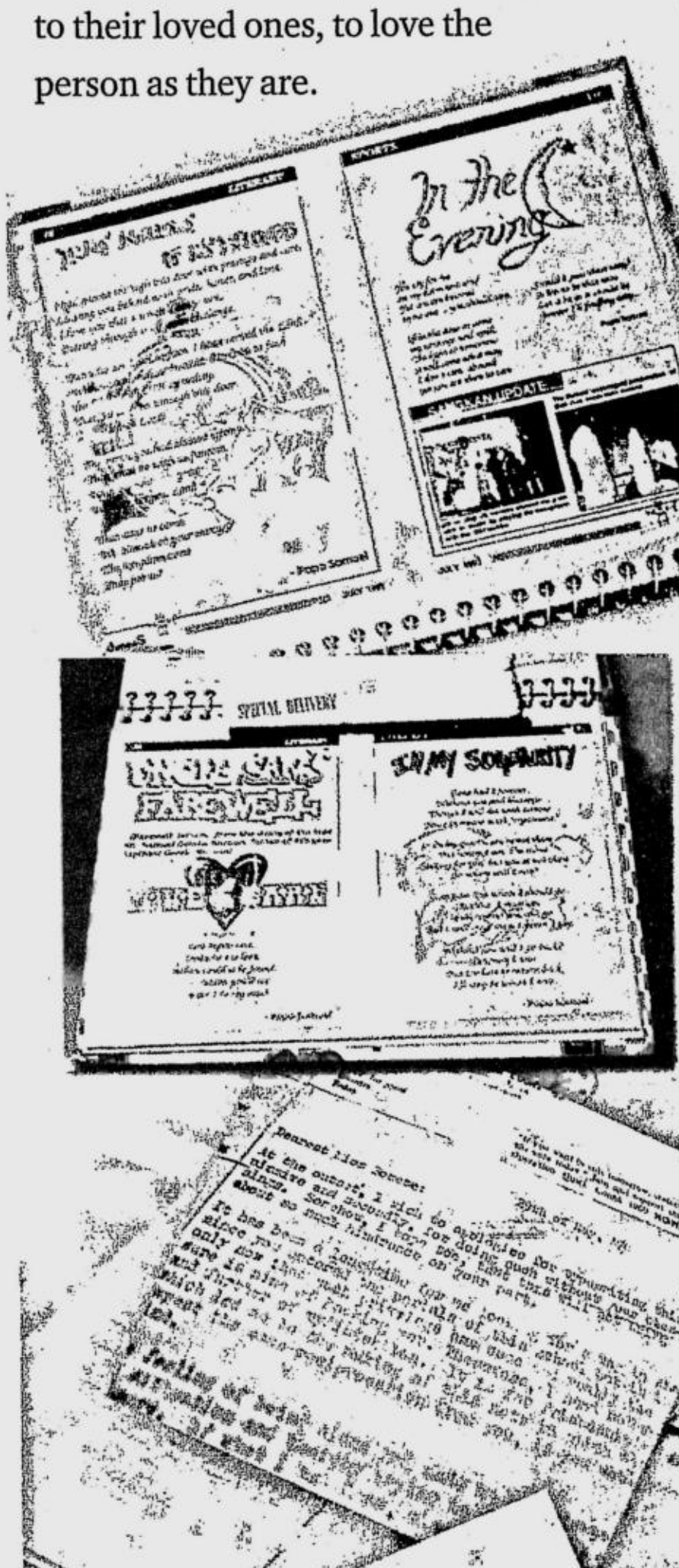
FOOD

No Service Charge • FREE Valet Parking

Love immortalized in love letters

From page J1

"I wanted to treasure him, all our memories. Even when I'm teaching, I used to tell my students to be loyal to their loved ones, to love the person as they are.



Yes, there are thousand and one ways in which we could show our affection to our beloved. But have you also asked yourself how far could you go in the name of love?

Hortencia "Tence" Bonete Marzan, a 62-year-old English teacher had found a really unique way of expressing that undying love. That is, by keeping in albums all the love letters and poems her late husband had given her-from his very first letter, to his proposal letter to the last poems he composed for her and their children several weeks before he died.

Her collection may not be extensive that they could fill up a shelf but it is nevertheless complete. Some of them date back to the 1970s and were written in yellow pad papers or letterheads of the school where her husband taught. More importantly, the letters provided a view of the romance between the circa '70s lovers, giving us also a glimpse of the culture of that by-gone era.

Born 6th on a brood of eight children, Tence grew up under her mother's care. They lived in the barrio of Maygnaway in San Andres town (formerly Calolbon) in Catanduanes. She was already a teacher then.

Tence shares that an incident during the summer of 1970-when she bought a thin notebook in a store at Catanduanes College where her husband is a teacher-led to her eventual romance with Sammy Marzan. He was from Virac, which is about 34 kilometers away from San Andres. That incident led to one after another. They eventually tied the knot on Dec. 20 of that year. They had four children--Maida, Zandra, Miyette and Gervic.

Never dated

Though their courting period (only about seven months) can be considered short, Tence says that Sammy didn't have an easy time getting her hand. He had always asked her for a visit in their house but for some reasons she had turned them all down. She says she even didn't meet up with him so no one in the campus knew that he was courting her. Technically, they haven't dated.

"But he was very insistent. He did everything to get his message across. He was writing me one letter after another," Tence shares with her face glowing as if reliving those times. "This was the reason why I have all of these letters. And I have kept all of them until now."

Sammy's first letter to Tence was dated May 29, 1970. Its theme was extending his hand for friendship. In his succeeding letters, he would already say that his meeting up with her is a blessing to him, that his life is now renewed, him being heart-broken.

He had one letter for her during the next five days, everyday except during the weekend. After a week, he had his proposal letter, dated June 5, 1970. It was short but it has everything her husband desired. His letter said: "My beloved Miss Bonete, I love you and nothing more follows

...

With all sincerely, Sammy."

"Mahilig siya sa sulat eh. Tuwing aalis siya lagi siyang may sulat," she remembers even enumerating how he would address her in his letters.

She admits she was always amused on how his salutation went: Miss Bonete (Tence's maiden name), Everdearest Sugar Lady, My beloved Miss Bonete, Everdearest Tennie or Tence, Everly sweetheart, My dearest one and Mama. In one of his letters, he even addressed her as "Her Majesty, Queen of Maygnaway, Dominion of Calolbon, From Kingdom of My Heart, Paradise Lost."

Several weeks before he died, Sammy was still writing letters and poems for her and her family. He passed away in June 1993 at age 50.

Love treasured

Tence never thought of including all of his letters and poems to his grave.

"I wanted to treasure him, all our memories. Even when I'm teaching, I used to tell my students to be loyal to their loved ones, to love the person as they are. My students read these love letters," she boasts.

She shares that she's always inspired everytime she goes over his letters. "Maybe it's my way of giving back all the love he had given me."

This Valentine's Day, she would again visit him in his grave, something that she has done everytime this day of hearts come since he died.

"I would always do this until I die. I would always visit him and would always have cards and flowers for him," she concludes.

Power Plant Valentine fair

IT'S THAT time of the year when couples wear their hearts on their sleeves, paint the town red (literally!) and make a night of it. So does Power Plant Mall as it welcomes Valentine's Day this year with open arms through a Valentine Fair. Six days and six nights of blissful, can't-get-enough-of love awaits you at Rockwell Center!

"All is Fair in Love" is from Feb. 14 to 20, where the entire North Court of Power Plant Mall will be filled with merchants offering flowers and chocolates for star-crossed lovers and their twinkly-eyed dates.

On the day of hearts itself, also at the North Court, lounge pianist Ria Villena-Osorio will serenade you with her renditions of classic love songs and sentimental tunes satiating your appetite for good old-fashioned la 'amour.

Visit Rockwell and make this Valentine's Day a memorable one either with that special someone or with the entire family. They'll love you for it!

A fun, fresh, flavorful love day

LOVE is in the air this Valentine's Day. And as always, plans for today include dining out with your loved ones. With the long list of restaurants around, one just has to choose a place that will truly put you in that romantic mood.

At Chili's Grill and Bar Restaurant, Valentine's Day is a day of celebration. Ladies will be given chocolates, a sweet gesture for a sweet guest. Food servers will also dress up for the day in their Valentine costumes to create an atmosphere of intimacy. Guests can cast their votes for best costume from among the servers.

Chili's offers fun, fresh and flavorful food items on the menu. From appetizers to salads to the main course, Chili's offers hefty servings good enough for sharing. And Chili's boasts of a margarita bar that serves flavored margaritas and other cocktail drinks.

Experience romantic dining at Chili's, where good food and good time are served all the time. Chili's branches are located at Missouri corner Nevada Streets in Northeast Greenhills; Greenbelt 1 in Ayala Center, Makati; and Tomas Morato corner Sct. Fernandez Streets in Quezon City.

TERIYAKI BOY IN LOVE

Celebrate Valentine's the Japanese way at Teriyaki Boy. A surprise awaits couples who dine in at any branch during this special day. And for a very romantic evening, visit Teriyaki Boy Tomas Morato today at the roof deck and experience a one-of-a-kind Japanese Valentine Theme. Teriyaki Boy branches are at Madison Square, Greenhills, Tomas Morato, Quezon City, Glorietta 3, Makati, Festival Mall, Alabang, SM City Pines, Baguio City, Megastrip SM Megamall Building B, Market!Market!, Global City, and Promenade, Greenhills Shopping Center.

Smart Link supports 'Love Letters'

SMART Link is a satellite-based prepaid telecommunication service for both individual and business subscribers. Instead of using GSM platform like conventional cellular phones, Smart Link gets its signal from the AceS Satellite orbiting over the Southeast Asian region. This enables it to provide voice services in areas where there are no cellsites or cellular coverage. Seamen, for instance, can now stay in touch with their families even when in the middle of the high seas, thanks to Smart Link.

Nyoy was originally commissioned to compose and record a jingle for Smart Link song. The song titled "Parang Kapiling" is a touching acoustic ballad that narrates how telecommunications helps people stay close even when they're far apart. It only took Nyoy one hour to come up with the lyrics and the melody for the song.

On Valentine's Day, Edsa Shangri-la's Lobby Lounge sets the stage for the intimate dinner-concert "Love Letters" featuring the unique brand of music of Smart's latest voice and face, Nyoy Volante and Mannos, and the sweet sultry voice of young diva Karylle.

Regarded as two of the music industry's finest, Nyoy and Karylle will mesmerize their audience with dreamy love letters immortalized in classic and contemporary love songs. Their repertoire includes movie themes, pop hits, remakes, plus originals such as Nyoy's "You Are My You," "Nasaan" and Karylle's "Pagbigyan ang Puso".

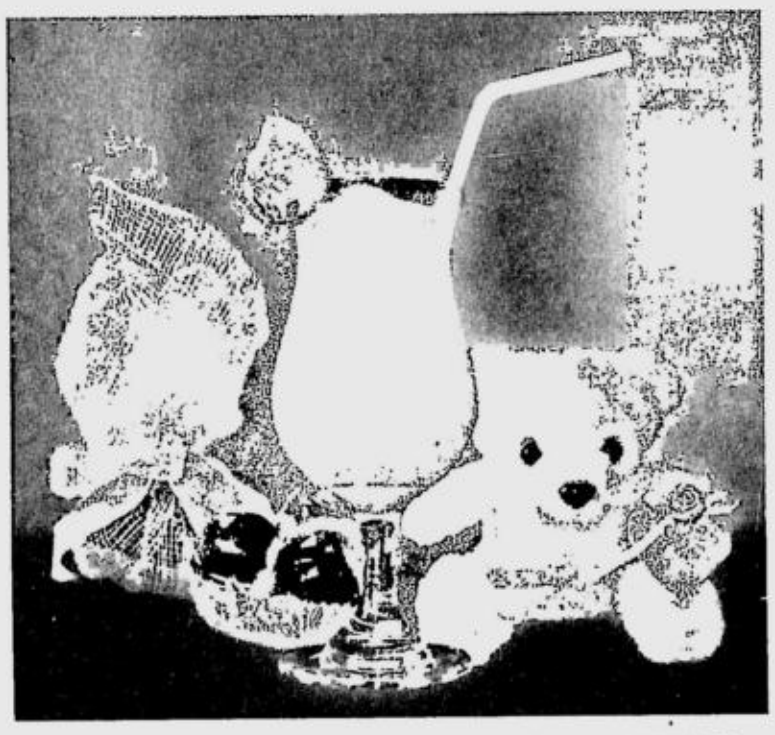
With six-meter bay windows showing a view of the lagoon and tropical gardens, the Lobby Lounge's cozy yet elegant ambience makes it a favorite spot for small meetings and laid-back conversations. For "Love Letters" however, the Lobby Lounge will be transformed into a lover's paradise with garlands of flowers and hundreds of sparkling Tivoli lights at the gardens. It will be the perfect romantic backdrop for pouring out your emotions and celebrating your passion this Valentine's Day.

"Love Letters" is presented by Edsa Shangri-la Hotel Manila in cooperation with Smartlink Satellite Service, Nestle KitKat, Ellips Cologne, NJORK by Miguel Francisco, Buffalo David Bitton Watches and Accessories, Wave 89.1 and Joey 92.3.

"Love Letters" comes with a dinner buffet, which starts at 6:30 p.m. Advanced reservations recommended. Call Edsa Shangri-La at 633-8888 extensions 2738 and 2739.

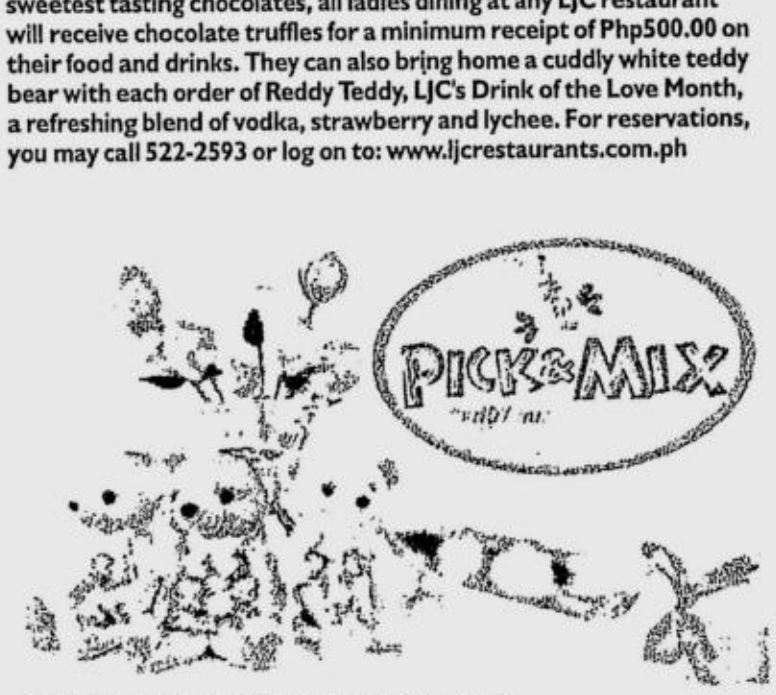
DR. P GIVES MORE TENDER LOVING CARE THIS VALENTINE'S DAY

In this month of loving hearts and in response to the increasing number of people clamoring for quality, tender loving care adult diapers at much affordable price, Dr. P brings back its Basic Medium 10+1 Free Promo. For every pack of Dr. P Basic Medium 10 diapers you buy, you get one extra diaper pad FREE. With its antibiosis and deodorization layer, Dr. P protects the wearer from odor causing germs - - - so you get more protection and more value for your money. The promo is available until supply lasts and can be found in selected leading supermarkets and groceries nationwide. Another quality product distributed by JS Unitrade Merchandise, Inc.



"SWEETS FOR MY SWEET," LJC GROUP'S VALENTINE TREAT

Celebrate the day of hearts with your loved ones at any LJC restaurant. Dare to be different, have a safari-inspired romantic dinner at Africana Lounge, just atop Café Havana Malate. Enjoy the Valentine's set menu prepared by Café Adriatico Westgate in Alabang and Café Adriatico Eastwood in Libis. There's also a Valentine's lunch buffet at Ang Hang, Remedios Circle, Malate. But because Valentine's Day just doesn't seem complete without the sweetest tasting chocolates, all ladies dining at any LJC restaurant will receive chocolate truffles for a minimum receipt of Php500.00 on their food and drinks. They can also bring home a cuddly white teddy bear with each order of Reddy Teddy, LJC's Drink of the Love Month, a refreshing blend of vodka, strawberry and lychee. For reservations, you may call 522-2593 or log on to: www.ljcrestaurants.com.ph



SAY 'I LOVE YOU' WITH PICK & MIX

This Valentine's Day, Pick & Mix by Candy Mix shows you how to say "I love you" to that special someone in a romantic yet affordable way. A fancy and attractive gift pack of mixed imported delectable candies and chocolates, it comes with a cuddly toy bear and chocolate flavored roses. Pick & Mix is indeed an exciting treat for people with limited budgets. Pick & Mix by Candy Mix is the candy store that first brought to the country the concept of retailing candies by weight. Hurry and get your special someone this Valentine gift from Pick & Mix, available at SM Supermalls, Alabang Town Center, Enchanted Kingdom, Star City, Landmark, Waltermart Calamba and Bohol Quality Mall.

TXT2 PROTECT

eStandard Cellphone Insurance

*The FREE P100,000.00 Personal Accident Insurance provides coverage for Accidental Death and Disablement and Unprovoked Murder and Assault subject to the Terms and Conditions, Warranties, Clauses and Endorsements of Standard Insurance Unlimited Personal Accident Policy Number SI-PAC-1022603.

CELLULAR PHONE INSURANCE TERMS & CONDITIONS

Your Cellular Phone Insurance is covered under the Master Policy No CIP 0000X0001 with the following terms and conditions.

I. COVERAGE
In consideration of the payment of premium, eStandard Insurance Corporation (the "Insurer") shall indemnify you against loss and accidental damage of your cellular phone unit within the Philippines which may occur within the period of one (1) year beginning 2:00 PM on the date of premium payment. This policy is a replacement cost policy and is not transferable.

II. MAXIMUM LIABILITY
The maximum liability of the Insurer shall be limited to the replacement of the cellular phone unit with the same brand and model in case of unavailability, a different model with an equivalent value at the time of the claim, of the same brand shall be provided.

III. DEDUCTIBLE
a. The deductible for each accidental damage claim shall be the first P300 or 5% of the current fair market value of the replacement unit whichever is greater; and
b. The deductible for total damage and loss claim shall be the first P1,000 or 25% of the current fair market value of the replacement unit whichever is greater.

IV. EXCLUSIONS
Insurer will not be liable in respect of
1. Loss
a. Loss not reported to the police within 24 hours from the time of loss; and claims report form not filed with the Insurer within two (2) days from the date of loss by the Insured
b. Loss of the cellular phone unit left unattended except in securely locked premises or vehicle and, there is evidence of physical damage to the vehicle or premises as a result of forcible entry.
c. Loss of the cellular phone unit while in or on any form of public conveyance or public place unless the cellular phone unit is taken from client by actual or threatened force.
d. Loss of the cellular phone unit from any open type vehicle such as jeepney owner type vehicle and the like
e. Unexplained loss or mysterious disappearance of the cellular phone unit wherein the loss could not be sufficiently established
f. Loss by third party. Third party shall mean any person other than the parties to the contract
g. Loss within deductible
2. Damage caused by or attributable to the following:
a. Any process of cleaning, servicing, maintenance, adjustment or repair including water damage
b. Any claim arising from abuse or misuse;
c. Wear and tear or gradual deterioration of the cellular phone unit's performance;
d. Mechanical and electrical breakdown or malfunction without accident
e. Damage to or malfunction of the cellular phone unit caused by or attributed to the operation of a software virus or any other software based malfunction.
f. The cost of repairs to interior or exterior paintwork caused by scratching or chipping of paintwork or polished surfaces;
g. Any cost or charges for which the manufacturer, supplier or distributor are liable in accordance with their standard warranty obligations
3. Fraud
a. Insurer reserves the right to refuse the coverage of a particular unit or nullify this policy in case of fraud or any attempt thereof.
b. Misrepresentation, concealment or nondisclosure of facts shall be a cause for voiding the insurance coverage at the option of the insurer
4. Loss or Damage due to war risks, rebellion, radioactive, toxic, explosive components, nuclear radiation and fortuitous events.
5. Loss or Damage to SIM Card, external antennae, battery, casing, charger, external carrera and all other accessories.

V. GENERAL CONDITIONS
The insured must take all reasonable steps to safeguard the insured's property and to avoid accidents which may lead to damage or loss.

VI. CLAIMS
In the event of any incident which may give rise to a claim, the client can only file through the Insurer's "Service Centers" and "Branch Office" and must
1. Take all necessary steps within his power to minimize the extent of loss
2. Notify police authorities nearest the place of the loss and obtain police report
3. Immediately notify without delay either the Insurer's Head Office or any of the Branch and servicing outlets.
4. Furnish the insurer with the following within 10 days:
A. Damage claim
a. Proper Identifications
b. Bring the damage unit
c. Payment Slip and/or Official Receipt
d. Accomplish Claims Report Form
e. Any requested documentation to support the claim
B. Loss Claim
a. Proper Identifications
b. Police Report & /or excerpt from the blotter (reported within 24 hours from the time of accident)
c. Payment slip and/or Official Receipt
d. Accomplish Claims Report Form within 48 hours.
e. Any Proof of ownership
f. Any other requested documentation to support the claim

VII. CLAUSES
Tampering clause
Article 1760 New Civil Code
Waiver Clause
Documentary Stamps Clause
Changes in Policy Clause
Suit Against the Company
Cancellation Clause & Short Period Rate Scale Settlement Clause

eStandard INSURANCE CORPORATION

IMPORTANT NOTICE:
The Insurance Commissioner, with offices in Manila, Cebu and Davao, is the Government official in-charge of the faithful execution and enforcement of all laws relating to insurance and has supervision over insurance companies. The Commissioner is ready at all times to render assistance in settling any controversy between an Insurance Company and a Policyholder relating to insurance matters.

eStandard INSURANCE CORPORATION The Insurance Evolution

TXT2PROTECT cellphone insurance is provided by eStandard Insurance Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Standard Insurance Co. Inc.

Call your loved ones abroad with the IDD rate you can USE and ABUSE...

ITALY

rust And ove ou

PARIS

lease Always emember 'm incere

HOLLAND

ope ur ove asts nd ever ies

CANADA

elebrate Anniversaries ever low elays Away

JAPAN

ust lways ray ight

STATES

entimental imes re ruly ver weet

CHINA

all ere, eed ffection

...and say all the mushy expressions you want this Valentine's

30¢/min. IDD
to over 200 countries
25% cheaper than regular IDD rates

SUN CELLULAR
Everything Important is Under the Sun